

Jerusalem 15.00

Caffeine Free



This is Refreshment

VOLUME LXIII, NUMBER 19267

# THE JERUSALEM POST

MONDAY, MAY 16, 1996 • JERUSALEM, ISRAEL • 11:00 AM

A little remi.  
call the Sta  
From Israel, just dia.  
177-100-2727



## Abu Mazen calls for state at final status talks

INSIDE  
EIGHT PAGES  
FROM THE

**The  
New  
York  
Times**

WEEKLY REVIEW

IN a ceremonial opening last night in Taba, Israel and the PLO met to inaugurate the third and final stage of their negotiations, which began with Oslo 1 three years ago and are expected to end with a permanent peace agreement by 1999.

The delegation heads, Foreign Ministry Director-General Uri Savir, and PLO negotiator Mahmoud Abbas (Abu Mazen), both spoke of the promise of the future and the end of past conflicts.

"We do not have 'the right of return' to the past," Savir said, using a phrase central to both Israeli and Palestinian nationalists.

Both men also referred to terror as belonging to the past.

Savir called for political separation to encourage mutual cooperation and respect. It is necessary to break down "psychological walls" because what is important "is not just mutual recognition but mutual acquaintance," he said.

He made one overtly political statement, asserting that Jerusalem will remain the eternal, united capital of Israel, while Abbas called on Israel to remove obstacles to a Palestinian state next to Israel.

The two delegation heads met for more than two hours before making their speeches.

"This meeting is very symbolic. Its importance is to show that Israel and the Palestinians respect their agreements and have started the talks on time," said Nabil Shaath, Palestinian Authority planning minister.

The time leading up to the start of substantial Oslo 3 talks sometime after the May 29 elections is seen as the last chance for implementing unfinished business from Oslo 1 and 2, such as the establishment of safe passages between Gaza and the West Bank and redeployment from Hebron.

"According to the Declaration of Prin-

JON IMMANUEL

ciples we are not allowed to transfer issues from the transitional period to the final stage," negotiator Saeb Erekat told the *Al-Ayyam* daily yesterday.

The final stage of the process will deal with six issues specifically identified in the DOP and with "other issues of common interest" — such as water — over a period of up to three years.

An agenda is to be established with committees to deal with these issues, but no one is expecting fast progress. As both delegation heads said, there will be a time of getting better acquainted in order to make the psychological breakthrough necessary for the important challenges ahead.

The three most important and ideologically charged issues are Jerusalem, settlements, and 1948 refugees. The three others — security arrangements, borders, and relations with neighbors — are more

technical and will largely follow the contours of the solutions to the other three problems.

Informal talks have already begun on Jerusalem and settlements, while the issue of 1967 refugees has been discussed for the past year. At this point they stand as such:

• **Jerusalem — Israel** says Jerusalem is its eternal undivided capital. The Palestinians say Jerusalem is their capital too, but are willing to take the Arab-populated parts only and keep the city undivided physically. Some of these Arab neighborhoods are outside of the Jerusalem municipal borders and are already in area B, under partial Palestinian control. The Islamic holy places are under the control of the Wakf, so the talks are not starting from zero.

• **Settlements** — The most important question is how many settlements if any will be annexed to Israel, and how many will come under Palestinian control, thus

determining Israel's final borders. Will settlers in settlements which are not annexed be allowed to remain where they are as Israeli citizens and as permanent residents under a Palestinian administration? Will they be subject to Palestinian law if they stay?

Although radicals demand the removal of all settlers, many moderate Palestinians have spoken in support of leaving settlers where they are if they accept Palestinian rule up to the 1967 borders. Behind the apparent moderate stand is an assumption that most settlers will leave rather than accept Palestinian rule.

• **Refugees from 1948** — How many refugees will be accepted into the areas under Palestinian control and into Israel itself? Talks on Palestinians who fled in 1967 or were outside the country during the Six Day War have revolved around the issue of who is a refugee. Palestinian figures are some four times greater than (Continued on Page 2)



Deputy Chief of General Staff Maj.-Gen. Matan Vilna'i points to aerial photographs during yesterday's press briefing after the release of the IDF's report on the Kana shelling. (Israel Sun)

## IDF inquiry into Kana shelling: We didn't know refugees were there

THE IDF yesterday said its final inquiry into the Kana shelling, which killed more than 100 Lebanese refugees, showed the accident happened because of miscalculations, but insisted the bombardment was necessary to halt mortar and Katyusha fire on an army unit.

Pointing to black-and-white aerial photographs of the Kana UN base, before and after the IDF shelling, Deputy Chief of General Staff Maj.-Gen. Matan Vilna'i completely denied reported UN findings that the IDF knew civilians had sought refuge in the camp and had deliberately fired on them.

"We did not know there were refugees there," insisted Vilna'i. "We had no intention of hitting the UN camp. Hezbollah knew this and placed its mortar and Katyusha launcher very close to the camp."

The inquiry said one artillery battery fired 15 rounds at the Katyusha launcher, but most of the rounds hit an open field less than 100 meters from the target. A second battery also fired 15 rounds, but aimed at a mortar position, which the army said was from 250 meters to 290 meters from the camp.

This distance would normally be too

close for approval to open fire. But OC Northern Command Maj.-Gen. Amiram Levine said the order was given since it was a life-threatening situation.

"The commander on the ground reported that mortar shells were falling 40 meters from his men and getting closer," Levine said. "I sent these soldiers there, and my first consideration was to bring them home safely — and we did."

The IDF inquiry was conducted by Chief Artillery Officer Brig.-Gen. Dan Harel. The initial version was rejected last week by Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak, who sent it back for more details. It came back with details of two mistakes which ultimately led to the direct hit on the refugees.

The inquiry revealed that the IDF had miscalculated the exact place of the UN camp in Kana and had also failed to take into account its relatively large size, some 200 meters by 100 meters. This meant that the base was really less than 100 meters from the mortar. The 155mm shells are considered deadly within a 500-meter radius.

According to the inquiry, two shells hit

structures on the UN base and up to five shells may have fallen within the perimeter.

Vilna'i said the IDF only had general information about the number of refugees in south Lebanon, adding that UNIFIL refused to give it more accurate accounts of where they were seeking sanctuary. He said the IDF estimated some 5,000 were in 130 camps, but admitted most were likely in 14 large ones, including Kana.

"This was a rescue situation and we had to in a matter of a few minutes understand what was going on, give the orders, and take the measures to stop the enemy fire," Vilna'i said.

He said no "no personal conclusions," a euphemism for being relieved of command, were planned regarding the Kana affair.

Vilna'i said overcast weather prevented the use of aircraft or attack helicopters and that an unmanned reconnaissance plane, which was in the area but on a different mission, could not focus on Kana. Photographs taken two days before the April 18 shelling showed a virtually empty base, and the generals said they had no way of knowing refugees had sought sanctuary inside.

## Kibbutz movements approve debt repayment arrangement

GALIT LIPKOS BECK

THE United Kibbutz Movement and Kibbutz Artzi yesterday voted to approve the supplementary kibbutz debt arrangement.

The heads of the kibbutz movements recommended approving the agreement unconditionally, saying it offers a solution to the debt problem.

During the last few weeks, both movements have been making preparations for the voting by informing members about the arrangement. UKM voted 192-8 in favor of the agreement, while only 60 percent of Kibbutz Artzi

voted in favor. The agreement will be signed in Tel Aviv today in the presence of Finance Minister Avraham Shohat and the heads of the banks.

**Batsheva Tsur adds:** The cabinet yesterday held a heated debate on the kibbutz debt, with ministers Yossi Sarid, Shimon Shetret, Ya'acov Tzur and Moshe Shahal demanding a thorough investigation of the Procaccia Report, which alleges the commercial banks overcharged kibbutzim over the years.

Shohat retorted that whoever wanted could test the report in court. It was decided to hand the matter over to Attorney-General Michael Ben-Yair for investigation and his opinion is expected shortly.

## Jerusalem Arabs refusing to form neighborhood councils

BILL HUTMAN

THE Jerusalem Municipality-affiliated Association of Community Councils is moving ahead with plans to set up neighborhood councils in Arab parts of the city.

However, the Arab neighborhoods in which the authorities were counting on forming councils in the near future are refusing to accede to the plan. Isawiya, the most talked about neighborhood, has rejected the idea, community leaders said.

Community councils exist in several Jewish and Arab neighborhoods and are aimed at improving local municipal services. They have long been considered a possible way to meet Palestinian demands for control in their parts of the city.

"The start of the final status talks has not affected us for good or for bad," said Zvika Cherni-

chovsky, association director. "We hope to present a plan for the establishment of additional neighborhood councils in both east and west Jerusalem after the election."

"There have been people, such as Minister Yossi Beilin, who have tried to give the neighborhood councils political meaning. But that has nothing to do with our work."

Former mayor Teddy Kollek first raised the possibility of autonomy in Arab neighborhoods in the late 1980s in his much publicized "borough plan." Palestinian leaders rejected the idea, demanding sovereignty. Since then, the emphasis in creating new neighborhood councils has been placed on their importance on the local level.

(Continued on Page 2)

## Peres: No Jewish expansion in Hebron

PRIME Minister Shimon Peres does not intend to allow the Jewish community in Hebron to expand its presence in the city. "There will be no changes in the status quo in Hebron, and I will not allow additions to buildings," Peres reportedly told the cabinet yesterday.

He was responding to a demand from Environment Minister Yossi Sarid that the government make political decisions about the future of Hebron.

The cabinet or the security cabinet will discuss the issue some time next week, Peres said.

"The prime minister discusses things with the army, and decides alone. There is no government, no cabinet, and no ministerial team negotiating with the Palestinians," Sarid charged, demanding that the withdrawal take place now, after the elections.

"The impression is that the government gives in to pressure and worse — to threats ... from settlers, orchestrated by [Likud MK] Ariel Sharon and [former Kach activist] Baruch Marzel," Sarid added.

"This is not true. The govern-

BATSHEVA TSUR

ment will stand by its commitment to the Oslo accords," Peres reportedly replied.

The redeployment will be coordinated with the Palestinians, he added, saying Foreign Ministry Director-General Uri Savir would meet with Palestinian Mahmoud Abbas (Abu Mazen) and OC Central Command Maj.-Gen. Uzi Dayan would discuss the situation with the Palestinian Authority police chief.

Israel is also keeping in touch with the Palestinians over the deployment of the international peacekeeping force, he said.

The overriding factor in the decision not to withdraw before the elections has been security, Peres stressed. There have been repeated warnings of impending terrorist attacks.

General Security Service head Ami Ayalon, however, discounted a report in *Ma'ariv* that some half a dozen suicide bombers are already inside Israeli territory waiting to act.

Security sources added later in the day that there is no factual evidence to back up the *Ma'ariv* report. They said that some of those identified in the report are in the Gaza Strip or are being

held by the Palestinian Police.

Meanwhile, Peres has distributed copies of the official English text of the PNC's resolutions on the Palestinian Covenant, sent to him by PA President Yasser Arafat, to the cabinet.

Describing it as a "historic resolution," Arafat wrote to Peres in an accompanying letter that "the [covenant] is hereby amended by canceling the provisions that are contrary to the letters exchanged between the PLO and the government of Israel."

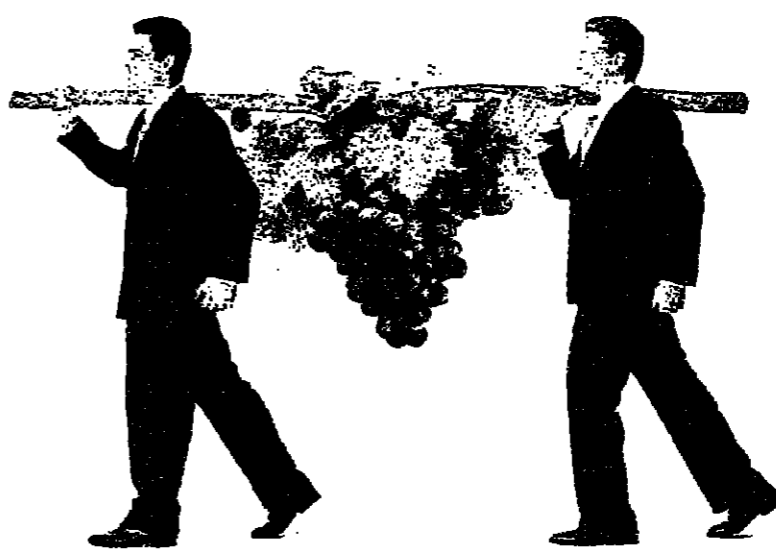
The decision to amend the charter was taken at a session of the PNC in Gaza on April 22-25, he said.

The text reads: "The Palestinian National Council, at its 21st session held in the city of Gaza ... decides:

"1. The Palestine National Charter is hereby amended by canceling the articles that are contrary to the letters exchanged between the PLO and the government of Israel on 9-10 September 1993.

"2. Assigns its legal committee with the task of redrafting the Palestinian National Charter in order to present it to the first session of the Palestine central council."

(Continued on Page 2)



## ISRAEL'S ECONOMY IS ON THE MOVE.

We offer you a comprehensive and diverse range of banking and financial services, based on six decades of unrivaled expertise. Talk to us first, and profit from a fully informed picture with professional services specifically tailored to your needs, including a special program of highly competitive financing opportunities.

- Open a tax free foreign currency account and enjoy:
  - Strict confidentiality
  - Short & medium term deposits in all major foreign currencies
  - Deposits convertible into all major foreign currencies
  - Highly competitive interest rates
  - No estate duties, tax free interest in Israel
  - Funds transferable worldwide.

- Should you choose to diversify your assets, consider investing through the Bank, in bonds and stocks, traded worldwide and on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange.
- A real estate purchase in Israel entitles you to loans of up to 50% (60% under special circumstances) of the property value.

For details, visit any branch of Israel Discount Bank, or contact our Business Promotion & Marketing Department, 16 Mapu St., Tel Aviv Tel: 03-5203198 Fax: 03-5242343.

ISRAEL DISCOUNT BANK



00051004

# Christopher acknowledges Israel's right to self-defense

BATSHEVA TSUR

THE Prime Minister's Office yesterday published the text of the letter US Secretary of State Warren Christopher wrote to Prime Minister Shimon Peres regarding the understanding Israel, Syria, and Lebanon signed on April 26. The text was presented to the ministers at yesterday's cabinet meeting.

"With regard to the right of self-defense ... the United States understands that if Hizbullah or any other group in Lebanon acts inconsistently with the principles of the understanding or launches attacks on Israeli forces in Lebanon, whether that attack has taken the form of firing, ambushes, suicide attacks, road explosives, or any other attack, Israel

retains the right in response to take appropriate self-defense measures against the armed groups responsible for the attack," Christopher writes in his letter dated April 30.

"With regard to the prohibitions on the use of certain areas as launching grounds for attacks, the US understands that the prohibition refers not only to the firing of weapons, but also to the use of these areas by armed groups as bases from which to carry out the attacks," he adds.

Meanwhile, Hizbullah leader Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah was quoted in Britain's *Independent* yesterday as saying that he did not

expect the cease-fire's safeguarding of civilians to last.

"I feel that the military people in Israel are not satisfied with this understanding and will not respect it," Nasrallah said. "As for us, we are going to comply because it protects our civilians."

Hizbullah's leader said his men would abide by the truce terms banning attacks on civilians. But the cease-fire did not outlaw attacks on Israeli forces in the security zone, Nasrallah said.

In a jibe at Washington's support for Israel, he also claimed that US President Bill Clinton had personally decided Israel should launch Operation Grapes of Wrath during the anti-terrorism summit at Sharm e-Sheikh in March.

## Golan regional council wants to attract 1,000 newcomers

DAVID RUDGE

THE Golan Regional Council yesterday launched a campaign to bring 1,000 new residents to the region by the end of the summer.

Council chairman Yehuda Wolman said the campaign was part of a program to continue developing the region and boosting its population. He said there are 250 homes on area moshavim and kibbutzim which are ready for almost immediate occupancy.

He added that the homes, ranging in size from 60 square meters to 70 sq.m., many of them up to half a dunam of land, would be sold for NIS 140,000-NIS 180,000. He noted that

many of the potential buyers would be eligible for loans and grants that would cover most of the purchase price. "The Golan is a great area and there are many advantages for those who want to come and live here, although I won't deceive them, they will have to work hard," said Wolman.

"There's something of an absurd situation here, as this government has been the one to support absorption of newcomers and the development of the region," said Wolman. "At the same time, I'm sorry that the government is broadcasting something else which is something I don't agree with."

## HEBRON

(Continued from Page 1)

"We remain committed to the peace process," Arafat added in his letter to Peres.

No debate was held on the issue at the cabinet meeting. The chairman of the PNC legal committee, Faisal Hamdi Hussein, said yesterday that 21 articles of the Palestinian Covenant had been canceled or changed in the new covenant, which will be prepared within three months.

Hussein, not to be confused with Jerusalem PLO chief Faisal Hussein, has been empowered to draft the new covenant. This is the first time that a senior PNC official has stated exactly how many articles in the 33-article covenant are to be amended.

Sarah Honig adds: "Arafat's letter to Peres is as valuable as a chick-pea skin." Likud MK Ze'ev Binyamin Begin said yesterday.

"The letter arrived 10 days too late and after the statement of the chief of military intelligence which intimated that the government is now bargaining with

Arafat over phraseology which will be retroactively presented as the decision of the Palestinian National Council.

"Yet even in this improved, touched-up version, not a single number of a single anti-Oslo clause of the PLO charter is specified. This means that not a single clause had in fact been nullified."

Herb Keinon adds: "I am only sorry that Peres caved into [Yossi] Sarid's dictates," Hebron settlement head Noam Arnon said.

Peace Now issued a statement saying that it "welcomes the government's decision to convene the security cabinet to discuss the withdrawal from Hebron, and calls upon the members of the cabinet to act responsibly and ensure that Israel fulfills its part of the Oslo agreements."

The statement went on to say that on the day when final status talks started in Taba, Israel must show that it will fulfill its commitments.

Jon Immanuel contributed to this report.

## Two men get 14 years for trying to kidnap soldier

NAZARETH District Court yesterday sentenced two men from the Jenin area to 14 years imprisonment for trying to kidnap a soldier from the Tzabi junction, near Migdal Ha'emek, as he was trying to hitchhike home.

Jamil Ziad, 40, and Walid Misharka, 31, pulled up to the hitchhiking station where Ofer Vaknin was waiting on September 21. When Vaknin approached the car to ask where they were going, Ziad got out of the car, pushed Vaknin to the ground, and aimed

his gun at him.

The two began struggling, and Ziad managed to take Vaknin's rifle, while Vaknin got Ziad's gun. Misharka then drove away and Ziad attempted to flee on foot, but was caught by security guards who had arrived at the scene.

Misharka was caught by police a month later.

Misharka also was sentenced to two additional years for stealing a car to ask where they were going, Ziad got out of the car, pushed Vaknin to the ground, and aimed

The Dr. Israel Goldstein Youth Village mourns the passing of a dear friend  
**EDGART GOLDMUNTZ**  
and extends heartfelt condolences to the family.

In deep sorrow, we announce the passing of our beloved  
**JULIE SILVERSTONE**  
Shiva will be at 173 Wingate St., Herzliya Pituah.  
The Family

## Peretz: 'Davar Rishon' may close Wednesday

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

IF the deal to merge the *Davar Rishon* and *Telegraph* newspapers is not closed by Wednesday, the Histadrut will close *Davar Rishon* down. Histadrut Chairman MK Amir Peretz said yesterday.

*Davar Rishon* and *Telegraph* were scheduled to appear as one evening newspaper today, but the joint publication was put off due to obstacles in the negotiations between *Davar Rishon's* workers' union and management.

The bone of contention focuses on the union's demand that all the workers of the new newspaper be employed on a collective wage agreement, including *Telegraph's* workers, who are employed on personal contracts.

In addition, the Histadrut and the Zinger-Barnea investment group, which purchased *Davar Rishon* a few months ago, have not yet completed the deal transferring the newspaper's ownership.

*Davar Rishon* journalists' union chairman Efraim Davidi said yesterday that he hopes the negotiations will be completed by Wednesday, and criticized the Histadrut for not supporting *Davar Rishon's* workers in their demand for a collective wage agreement.

## Syria rejects Christopher accusation

DAMASCUS (Reuters) - Syria yesterday rejected remarks by US Secretary of State Warren Christopher doubting President Hafez Assad's intention to make peace with Israel.

The official newspaper *Tishreen* also condemned US "bias" in favor of Israel, and warned Washington that it would face trouble in the region if it continues such policies.

Christopher had told *The Los Angeles Times* he is no longer sure that Assad would carry out his "strategic decision" to make peace with Israel.

## ARRIVALS

For the meeting of the Board of Governors of Tel Aviv University, Simon and Elena Revah Kabbell-Venezuela, to a lecture in his honor, Hilio and Klara Ostfeld-Venezuela, to the inauguration of the Venezuela Hall, Dr. Pedro Gus - Brazil, Dora Kaufman - Venezuela, to the inauguration of the Venezuela Hall, Leon Cohen - Venezuela, to the inauguration of the Venezuela Hall, Elizabeth Mandulis - Venezuela, to the inauguration of the Venezuela Hall.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

**Three killed in accidents yesterday**  
Two people were killed and four slightly injured yesterday morning in a head-on collision between a van and bus near Mazkeret Batya.

Bat Yam resident Ilana Hahimi, 43, died early yesterday morning at the Rabin Medical Center-Beilinson Campus in Petah Tikva several hours after the car she had been riding in hit a light pole on the Petah Tikva-Rosh Ha'ayin road near Afek Park. The driver, whose police suspect was drunk, is in stable condition after being operated on at the same hospital.

**Gidawi's stabber sentenced to 12 years**  
Iyad Salah, 22, of Hebron, who stabbed Nissim Gidawi, 72, in the city's cashab on Wednesday, was sentenced to 12 years' hard labor by a Palestinian security court in Jericho yesterday. Palestinian security sources said Salah had fled to Bethlehem, where he was tracked down and arrested.

He was tried quickly, sources said, to prevent a request for extradition by Israel. Under the terms of the Oslo accords, extradition cannot be sought if the criminal has already been tried by the Palestinian Authority.

**Technical reasons delay bus, planes to Jordan**  
"Technical reasons," not security considerations, were the reason for the delay of both regular bus service and El Al flights to Jordan, official spokesmen said yesterday.

The bus service between Israel and Jordan was to have begun at the beginning of the month, and the inaugural El Al flight to Amman was to have taken place on May 19. The start of bus service has been delayed for a month and El Al has not yet named a new date for its inaugural flight.



Israel's chief negotiator for final status talks Uri Savir (left) shakes hands with his Palestinian counterpart Mahmoud Abbas yesterday in Taba. (Reuters)

## Settlers drop idea of squatting in Hebron buildings

HERB KEINON

HEBRON and Kiryat Arba settlement leaders yesterday decided to temporarily shelve plans to squat in abandoned Jewish property in various parts of Hebron, out of concern this would harm their efforts to gain public support.

"Our goal now is to consolidate favorable public opinion," Hebron settlement head Noam Arnon said. "An operation like this would not have enough public support, so we decided to put it off."

The pattern in the past has been that when settlement activists stake a claim to a hill or abandoned structure, they did it without previous warning. Arnon,

however, revealed plans to squat in some 10 properties in Hebron in a radio interview over the weekend. He said he did this to gauge the response.

Arnon said that over the last few weeks the settlement has received support from all the religious and opposition parties, which he claimed translates into support by a "majority of Jews in Israel."

He said that the reason Prime Minister Shimon Peres has not given the green light for the redeployment is because "he also understands that there is support" for the Jewish community in

Hebron.

In a related development, Hebron settlement spokesman David Wilder denied reports of new building in the Beit Romano complex.

He said that the construction - all with the necessary permits - has been going on for a number of years, and is part of an effort to renovate the building for the Shavel Hebron Yeshiva.

The yeshiva moved to the complex from a building near the Machpela Cave in 1994, and currently has some 200 students. The renovations, Wilder said, will make it possible for the yeshiva to house some 500 students.

## TABA

(Continued from Page 1)

Israeli figures. Some Palestinian figures accept the idea of compensation for most refugees if the principle of return is accepted.

To solve these three issues in a way satisfactory to a majority of Israelis and Palestinians will take immense flexibility.

Faisal Hussein, who was recently elected to the PLO executive council, has entertained the idea of joint Israeli-Palestinian citizenship for Jerusalem Arab residents, which points to the idea of dual citizenship for settlers.

Both ideas will require a major recasting of personal political and ideological identities.

However, for Palestinians the bottom line is a Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital. "This is the only right, healthy, and logical solution," Erekat said.

## A lame-duck Peres could still carry out redeployment

HERB KEINON

IF Prime Minister Shimon Peres delays redeployment from Hebron until immediately after the elections, then loses the election, he would still have authority to carry out the redeployment, Claude Klein, a Hebrew University professor of constitutional law said yesterday.

"It would be very strange, but the government would have the authority to carry out the redeployment," Klein said. He said the Basic Law: Government gives a transitional government the same powers as a regular government.

While in the past transitional governments have lasted for up to seven months, under the new electoral system a government must be formed within 45 days of the official publication of the results, or new elections will be held.

Klein said there is no precedent of a transitional government carrying out a policy as controversial as the Hebron redeployment.

## COUNCILS

interest in forming councils. We have had to turn them down for now because of our own financial constraints," Cohen said.

He said the peace talks had also not effected the city's work with the three existing Arab neighborhood councils - Beit Hanina, A-Tur, and Beit Safafa.

"Our only interest is to find ways to improve city services by involving local neighborhood leadership," he said.

councils, but this could not be confirmed.

Yossi Cohen, Mayor Ehud Olmert's adviser on neighborhood affairs, said he recently had met with members of the Isawiya Village Committee and that they continued to present interest in becoming a council because of the additional funding it would mean.

"There are many Arab neighborhoods that have expressed

**To Owners and Claimants of REAL ESTATE IN FORMER EAST GERMANY AND EAST BERLIN**

We can SELL YOUR PROPERTY through AUCTIONS at FULL MARKET VALUE AND ABOVE, BEFORE AND AFTER RESTITUTION.

For details phone or fax our Tel Aviv representative at Tel. 03-6431539 Fax. 03-6413342  
**BERLINER GRUNDSTUECKSAUKTIONEN GMBH**  
The largest real estate auction firm in Germany

**Super charter Galilee Tours**  
THE LEADING COMPANY TO JORDAN AND EGYPT

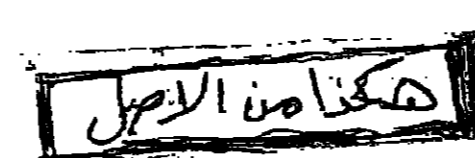
**MAY SPECIAL OFFER**

**PETRA one day tour \$119**  
INCLUDES: ENTRANCE-FEE + HORSES IN PETRA LOCAL GUIDE AND LUNCH PER PERSON

**JORDAN DISCOVERY \$389**  
4 DAYS / 3 NIGHTS B/B From \$389  
VISIT: AMMAN, UM-QEIS, MADABA, MT. NEBO, WADI MUJIB, PETRA, JERASH.

**EGYPT 4 DAYS / 3 NIGHTS From \$125**  
VISIT: CAIRO, PYRAMIDS, EGYPTIAN MUSEUM \$ starts from \$57 per night  
BUS ONE WAY TO CAIRO \$30 PER PERSON

FOR GROUPS CALL DORON AT 03-5253111  
**CALL NOW 03-5252999**  
FOR FURTHER DETAILS, CALL ANY OF THE TRAVEL AGENTS  
GALILEE TOURS BRANCHES: TEL-AVIV, 42 BEN YEHUDA ST. JERUSALEM 02-258866 EILAT 07-395145





# Ramon complains of Likud collusion with settler council

THE Knesset Labor faction yesterday filed a complaint with the Central Elections Committee claiming that the Likud is violating election laws by allowing the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria, and Gaza to place advertisements on its behalf.

Interior Minister Haim Ramon told a press conference in the Knesset the Likud had created a situation in which MKs from the Likud joint list are raising funds for settlements and, in return, the council is running its advertising campaign.

LIAT COLLINS

Ramon charged that apart from the dubious situation in which the council and the party are beholden to each other, the Likud is using the council to get around the ban on foreign campaign funding.

He accused Binyamin Netanyahu, Rafael Eitan, and Ariel Sharon of fundraising for or supporting the fundraising events of the council.

Most of his complaint focused on newspaper advertisements which, though unsigned, he said come from the council. The ads

carried the flower logo associated with the council and the slogan, "You can be sure. I'm sure of the national camp. Netanyahu for prime minister."

Ramon said the use of the word "sure" - a central theme in the Likud's campaign - showed the two were connected and added that for the past two elections Likud material had referred to "the national camp."

Ramon denied that the situation was similar to that of the left-wing organizations Eshar and A Whole

Generation Demands Peace, which have published material clearly favoring Shimon Peres. Ramon said Labor is not involved in these groups and is not providing them with funds.

MK Limor Livnat, head of the Likud's campaign, said the slogan "the national camp" does not belong to her party.

A council spokesman said the phrase was chosen specifically to appeal to supporters from different parties, including the National Religious Party, and to stop Netanyahu from using it.

# CEC approves 21 parties running in elections

LIAT COLLINS

TWENTY-ONE parties will participate in the May 29 elections. The Central Elections Committee yesterday approved the parties, their lists, platforms, names, and initials for the ballot slip.

A few minor changes were made to the lists after some candidates failed to meet all of the criteria and others resigned.

Nine of the parties are veterans of the outgoing Knesset. The others are either new parties or ones created by MKs who broke away from their factions.

Among them, The Third Way

was granted the letters "Hey Daled" (Hed; Yemin Yisrael took the letters "Yud Daled" (Yad); The Settlements' Party "Daled Nun" (Dan); MK Yosef Azran's Tel Aviv Eimuna "Ta"; Ahmed Tibi's Arab Unity for Progress and Renewal "Nun"; Gil, the Pensioners Party, "Peh"; Natan Sharansky's Yisrael Ba'aliya, "Caf Nun" (Ken); and MK Ephraim Gur's Unity for Aliya, "Kuf." The last letter, once belonged to the Communist Party

(Hadash), but the party is now using the letter "Vav."

The guessing game over the initials to be used by the joint Likud-Tsomet-Gesher list proved a waste of time. The list will stick with "Mem, Het, Lamed" (Mahal), used in the past by the Likud.

None of the veteran parties is changing its initials on the ballot slip. Labor's letters are "Alef, Mem, Tet" (Emet). Party political broadcasts will begin this week.



Yisrael Ba'aliya Knesset candidates Natan Sharansky (right), Yuli Edelstein, (left), and Yuri Shtern pose outside the party trailer, which left Jerusalem yesterday morning on a swing around the country to describe the government's failures in providing housing for new immigrants.

## Yisrael Ba'aliya unveils housing program

YISRAEL Ba'aliya unveiled its housing plan at a Jerusalem press conference yesterday. The plan calls for a dramatic decrease in housing prices and the massive construction of small rental apartments.

The party said every Israeli

should be able to purchase his first apartment with the cost of the land and the value added tax considered a standing loan, which would become a grant after 12 years.

The plan also calls for 6,000 housing units of 36 square meters

to 48 sq.m. to be built yearly on state land and rented for no more than \$200 a month. The cost, said to be \$180 million a year, would be financed through the issuance of bonds to be sold abroad.

Rental housing must also be built, the plan said, and the rent

for the first five years should be counted against the purchase cost, should the tenant decide at that point to buy.

The plan also recommended certain changes in planning and building laws.

(Itim)

## Likud: Netanyahu ahead among Jews

SARAH HONIG

THE gap between Binyamin Netanyahu and Shimon Peres has narrowed, the Likud said yesterday. Party information drive head Limor Livnat said Netanyahu has a lead among the Jewish population, but the Arab vote gives Peres a slight advantage.

"But things are so close that it is possible to upset this Peres lead. Right now it is literally neck-and-neck," she said, noting polls commissioned by the newspapers and Likud surveys.

An internal Labor poll showed Peres sliding in the Jewish sector to a point where he is reportedly tied with Netanyahu.

The Likud said that should Labor target Netanyahu for personal attacks in its upcoming TV commercials, it would return play the same game. Among the slogans likely to be featured in the Likud broadcasts are "Peres is cut off from reality" and "It is dangerous to put a man like Peres at the helm,

when his grasp of reality is so flawed."

TV election commercials begins on Wednesday, when Knesset candidates will be barred from regular news programs.

The Likud was gratified in having been able to get a side-by-side appearance for Netanyahu with Peres on tonight's *Popolitika*. This is considered a mini-debate, though the two candidates will be interviewed separately. Peres had previously refused to appear on any TV or radio program on which Netanyahu was also to be featured. He would not even grant an interview unless assured that one would not be sought from Netanyahu.

This afternoon, Netanyahu is slated to meet with 15 former supporters of the Left who have decided to endorse his candidacy. The group includes Prof. Yehoshua Porat and Yisral Steintz, kibbutzniks, moshavniks, new immigrants, and Arabs.

## Young activists pledge clean election campaign

LIAT COLLINS

AN attempt to ensure a clean electoral campaign through a code of behavior initiated by Tsomet Youth was marred yesterday by squabbles between Left and Right.

The signing ceremony took place in the Knesset in the presence of Central Elections Committee chairman Justice Theodor Orr. Oshik Azoula, of Tsomet Youth, said the group decided to draw up the agreement after they saw the direction the campaign is taking and that many of the activists on the street are teenagers.

Representatives from the younger generations of the Likud, National Religious Party, and Mokedet all praised the agreement.

The representative of Labor Youth, Dana Oren, was the first to spoil the party by accusing the right-wing parties of saying one thing and doing the opposite.

She accused their activists of physically attacking left-wingers and described the code as an attempt to mislead the public.

Tom Wagner, of Meretz Youth, initially refused to sign the document, saying it was "like signing an agreement to drink water."

Eventually all the parties swore to run a clean campaign and eschew violence.

LABOR Party campaign sources yesterday expressed dissatisfaction with what they called the "soft line" the party's campaign information head, Minister Haim Ramon, is taking vis-a-vis Likud leader Binyamin Netanyahu.

The fear among the Labor leadership is that unless the campaign launches a stronger attack on Netanyahu, the floating votes will sway to the Likud leader. Until now, Labor's campaign heads had agreed that the best campaign was Prime Minister Shimon Peres's daily achievements and actions, which led the news and made headlines.

However, a survey conducted for Labor last week indicated the narrowing of the gap between Peres and Netanyahu to 3 percent. The survey's results triggered off an exchange of accusations yesterday between Ramon's staff and that of Peres's personal campaign head, Foreign Minister Ehud Barak.

The survey excluded three large

sectors: Arabs; immigrants; and haredim. But Labor's comprehensive surveys all indicate a steady gap of 5% to 6% in Peres's favor.

Sources from the information campaign accused Barak of leaking the results of the internal survey to the press, noting his lack of experience in conducting a political campaign and pointing out that he is not familiar with political surveys.

Sources from Barak's campaign headquarters accused the information campaign of "childish" behavior and suggested that each campaign staff concentrate on its own affairs.

Labor's television campaign broadcasts, which begin on Wednesday, will be in the format of a news program, in which Peres will speak of his commitment to make peace with the Arab world and the way he and late prime minister

Yitzhak Rabin pursued this goal together.

One of Labor's campaign broadcasts will "expose" the Likud's alleged plan to invest NIS 13 billion in settlements in the territories if Netanyahu wins the elections. Other broadcasts will present Netanyahu as an unsuitable candidate for prime minister, using quotes from senior Likud figures and Likud supporters.

Labor's campaign heads have also decided that if the Likud uses video clips of terrorist attacks in its campaign broadcasts, they will present clips of the Likud's violence at demonstrations before Rabin's assassination.

Labor's Young Guard intends to follow up the "Bibi is unsuitable" slogan it created with a campaign casting doubt on Netanyahu's Zionist inclinations.

**HOW WILL YOU KNOW WHEN IT'S TIME TO RETIRE?**

Age has something to do with it. So do the years you've put in at work. But one of the main factors in planning for retirement is preparing for financial security.

### CommStock introduces Pre-Retirement Consultation.

Regardless of how close you are to retiring, now is the time to set up a portfolio that will provide maximum income when you need it. Consulting now with CommStock's financial experts can help you insure that when you're ready to retire, your finances will be ready too.

For an introductory appointment call Douglas Goldstein, Director of Securities at (02) 244965.

### COMMSTOCK EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO SUCCEED

CommStock Trading Ltd. (Est. 1981) Futures, Options, and Stock Brokers  
 Jerusalem: City Tower, 34 Ben Yehuda St. Tel. 02-244963; Fax. 02-244876  
 Ramat Gan: Beit Silver, 7 Abba Hillel St. Tel. 03-575-8826/7; Fax. 575-6990  
 Home-quote terminals and beepers available.

**ELECTIONS 1996**

**A DEBATE IN ENGLISH**

**YOSSI BEILIN MK (Labor)**      **DAN MERIDOR MK (Likud)**

**ZOA House, Rehov Ibn Gabirol, Tel Aviv, Friday morning, May 10, 10 a.m. Admission: NIS 5 (to cover costs)**

**Sponsored by:**  
 The Jerusalem Post, the Zionist Organization of America, the Association of Americans and Canadians in Israel, the British Oil Society, the Hitachdut Olei Britannia, the English Speaking Residents' Association, and the South African Zionist Federation (Israel)

### No charms for supporters

FOLLOWING complaints have been filed: parties intend to prepare a pre-election kit with charms and blessings for supporters. Central Elections Committee chairman Justice Theodor Orr warned that trying to influence voters by promises of blessings or curses carries a five-year prison sentence. Liat Collins

**SARAH WEINSTEIN and HEDYA Jewelry**

On exhibit: Paintings by Edna Miron-Wagner  
 15 Shimon Ben Shetah St. Tel. 250610 Tel/Fax 258021

**TEL AVIV UNIVERSITY**

**INAUGURATION OF THE HERMAN AND ESTER KAHAN SCHOLARSHIP FUND IN THE HISTORY OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE**

Lecture:  
**Professor Yaacob Shavit**  
 Lester and Sally Entin Faculty of Humanities  
 Department of Jewish History

**Jewish History: Re-inventing the Past; Imagining the Future**

on Thursday, 9 May 1996 at 3:15 p.m. Hall 003, Israel Pollak Wing for Public Policy Naftali Building of Social Sciences  
 Tel Aviv University Campus, Ramat Aviv  
 Entrance: Ramneanu Gate (4)  
 The public is invited



# Yeltsin aide: Postpone elections

LONDON (AP) — A senior aide of Russian President Boris Yeltsin wants next month's elections postponed because he fears a Communist victory and possible civil unrest, *The Observer* newspaper reported yesterday.

"A lot of influential people are in favor of postponement and I'm in favor of it too because we need stability," it quoted Gen. Alexander Korzhakov as saying.

The Observer said it interviewed Yeltsin's personal security chief and close friend at a May Day celebration in Moscow on Wednesday. Political experts regard him as one of the most influential people in Russia.

A secret Kremlin poll conducted in mid-April showed that Yeltsin, on 10 percent, is trailing Communist Party leader Gennady Zyuganov by 20 percent and the right-wing nationalist Vladimir Zhirinovskiy by 5 percent, *The Observer* said.

"If we have the elections there is no way of avoiding a fight," it quoted Korzhakov as saying.

"If Yeltsin wins the radical opposition will claim the results were falsified and there will be unrest. If Zyuganov wins, even if he wants to take a centrist line, the same people won't let him and they'll scream."

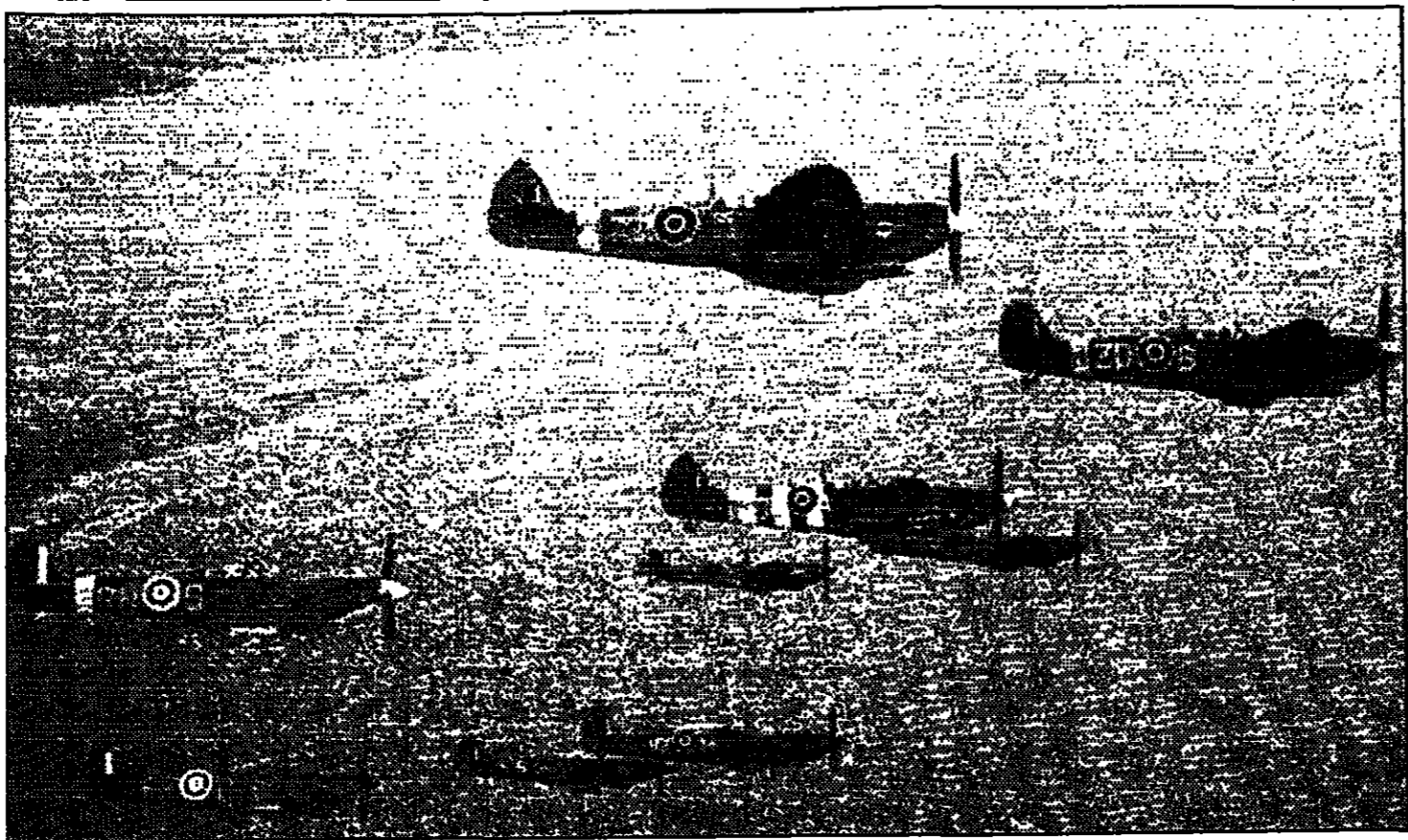
Yeltsin said last week he will hold elections as scheduled on June 16.

He has tried to appease hard-liners since Communists and right-wing nationalists won the most votes in parliamentary elections in December and because millions of Russians are unhappy with economic reforms.

He has moved to soften free market reforms and has fired radical reformers from his entourage while continuing with a tough stance on the war in Chechnya.

Nevertheless, some reformers view him as the only politician who can stop Zyuganov, whose party won the most votes in December.

*The Observer* said Korzhakov's remarks show he "appears to be involved in a covert attempt to force Yeltsin to abandon his promise" to hold elections on schedule.



A formation of Supermarine Spitfires flies over Southampton Water as part of the salute to the famous World War II fighter aircraft yesterday. The Spitfire, which along with the Hurricane was the backbone of the RAF during the Battle of Britain in 1940, made its inaugural flight over the same spot 60 years ago. (AP)

# At least 9 bombs damage Bahrain stores

ADNAN MALIK  
MANAMA

IN the latest wave of unrest to shake this tiny Gulf Arab state, bombs went off simultaneously early yesterday, starting fires which gutted four shops and damaged five.

The 2 a.m. explosions came after a day of scattered protests by opposition activists to mark the 40th day of Moslem mourning for a man executed for killing a policeman.

All nine shops were closed when the blasts, apparently caused by incendiary devices, went off. No one was injured and there was no claim of responsibility from any group.

Suspicion immediately fell on opposition activists, who have been waging a campaign for political reforms since December 1994. But a government statement did not point an accusing finger at

any group.

The brief statement, carried by the official Gulf News Agency, gave sketchy details on the bombings, saying security authorities have begun an investigation and were searching for the culprits.

An account given by the news agency of discussions in a scheduled Cabinet meeting made no mention of the bombings.

Life in the commercial heart of Manama, where six of the nine bombed stores are located, appeared normal throughout the day except for the conspicuous presence of uniformed policemen and plainclothes security men carrying walkie-talkies.

Life also appeared to be normal in the post diplomatic area near-

sect of Islam, has branded the dissidents arsonists and saboteurs and rounded up hundreds of people since December 1994.

Police Saturday night, acting on a tip, defused six small explosive devices planted at the Yateem Shopping Center in Manama. A seventh device later exploded there, but caused no damage, security sources said.

The government statement said firemen detected and defused incendiary devices concealed in cigarette boxes, but did not say how many or where they had been found.

Just hours before the bombings, activists started small fires in villages outside Manama to mark the 40th day of Moslem mourning for 29-year-old Isa Qambar, executed March 26 for killing a policeman during a riot last year.

Riot police responded by throwing an elaborate security ring around several villages known to be hotbeds of dissent and stopped pedestrians and motorists for identity checks.

Violence in Bahrain has escalated sharply this year — three hotels were bombed, while restaurants, bank machines and other property have been targets of arson attacks.

So far, 27 people have been reported killed in the violence. AP

# MPs tell Major to get tough with Europe

LONDON (Reuters) — Prime Minister John Major, fresh from a mauling in local elections, faced new headaches yesterday as "Euro-sceptics" in his Conservative party ignored unity calls and demanded tough action against Britain's European partners.

In a series of media interviews, Major and his lieutenants insisted that the Conservatives could bounce back from defeat in Thursday's town hall polls to win the general election — now no more than a year away — as long as the party pulled together.

"What I think the local elections really do is to cause us to focus much more intently on...the need to unite, to stop the internal wrangling, to stop the public bickering, to recognize that unity is an absolute prerequisite to electoral victory," Trade Secretary Ian Llang told BBC radio.

"If we don't, for the next year, get behind the prime minister and back the government we will lose and lose badly, and more important, deserve to lose," Lord Archer, the author and a former deputy chairman of the party, told ITV.

But while they paid lip service to the need for unity, a number of Conservatives opposed to closer integration of the European Union made it clear that the price of their undivided support would be a more robust stance against Brussels.

John Townend, chairman of the right-wing '92 faction of Conservative members of parliament, urged Major to retaliate

unless the EU dropped its world-wide ban on British beef exports — imposed because of mad cow disease — within three weeks.

Teresa Gorman, another Conservative Euro-sceptic, said she would introduce a bill in parliament demanding a referendum on Britain's ties with Europe.

And former cabinet minister John Redwood, who failed in a challenge to Major's leadership of the party last July, said Britain should reintroduce a 200-mile fishing exclusion zone unless the EU gives Britain a new deal on fishing quotas.

Their demands underlined the difficulty Major faces in responding to increasingly anti-European sentiment in his party without alienating vital pro-Europeans such as finance minister Kenneth Clarke.

Even Sir Marcus Fox, a Major loyalist, coupled a call for unity with an invitation to the prime minister to "bludgeon" Britain's partners at next month's EU summit in Florence.

"Whatever he can do there to bring the European Union to its senses, the more thanks he will get and votes," Fox told Sky TV.

Thursday's voting for town halls across England illustrated the mountain that the Conservatives, in power nationally since 1979, must climb to win a fifth consecutive term of office.

Labor won 43 percent of the vote against 27 percent for the Conservatives and 26 percent for the minority Liberal Democrats.

# Liberians emerge from shelter during lull in fighting

MONROVIA (Reuters) — Liberians hurried to fetch water in the capital Monrovia yesterday morning, taking advantage of a lull in fighting after an assault by Charles Taylor's forces on their ethnic Krahn foes in the main army barracks.

But sporadic gunfire could still be heard.

Negotiators said they had persuaded Taylor to agree to a ceasefire following the departure of Krahn leader Roosevelt Johnson for peace talks in Ghana due to start tomorrow.

But Taylor, who launched the civil war from Ivory Coast in 1989, promptly denied all knowledge of any truce and said he would not attend the talks — despite pressure from the US which has warships offshore.

Taylor, a vice-chairman on the ruling Council of State, said Council chairman Wilton Sankawulo would

represent him and his ally vice-chairman Alhaji Kromah.

Yesterday morning Taylor's fighters milled around the empty Ambassador Hotel in the Mamba Point district, awaiting orders.

Taylor's forces were in control of two bridges linking the city center to Bushrod Island and had widened their control of the downtown area, through front lines have moved little in four weeks of fighting.

Battles began on April 6 after the Council tried to arrest Johnson on murder charges.

A truce agreed with West African and US mediators on April 19 collapsed 10 days later.

Diplomatic sources said the Krahn had told them on Thursday they would be willing to observe a ceasefire, and Taylor gave his assent after the Americans flew Johnson out of the country.

# Mandela worried about Zulu violence

DURBAN (Reuters) — President Nelson Mandela is extremely concerned at renewed violence in KwaZulu-Natal province and could send extra security forces if the situation worsens, a presidential spokesman said yesterday.

At least one woman was killed and eight people, including three policemen, were wounded during and after a march by 7,000 Zulus aligned to the Zulu-based Inkatha Freedom Party in the KwaZulu-Natal port city of Durban on Saturday, police said.

Presidential spokesman Joel Netshitenzhe said the president "has expressed extreme concern about what happened in Durban yesterday."

"He has consulted with the ministers of safety and security and defence and has expressed full confidence in the manner they are handling a difficult and complex situation in KwaZulu-Natal."

"The situation is being reviewed on a continual basis and if it worsens, security forces will be sent to KwaZulu-Natal."

# Today's Israel - In Antique Style

Beautiful touring maps of today's Israel — decorated in old-fashioned style, with drawings of the historical and holy sites incorporated into the ornamental frame.

42 cm. W x 113.5 cm. H (16.5" x 44.5").

- Israel Pilgrims' Map — The Land that Jesus Walked (English)
- Israel Touring Map — The Holy Land Available in Hebrew or English

Suitable for framing — perfect gift for tourists, friends, family — in Israel or abroad!

JP Price NIS 39 each  
JP Special — any 2 posters for NIS 75.



To: Books, The Jerusalem Post, POB 81, Jerusalem 91000  
Please send me the following posters:

Title	Qty	Price
_____	_____	_____
TOTAL		_____

- Mailing in Israel NIS 4 per order
- Door-to-door delivery (where available) NIS 15 per order

Enclosed is my check, payable to The Jerusalem Post, or credit card details:

- Visa  Isracard  Diners  Amex

CC No. \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Code \_\_\_\_\_ ID No. \_\_\_\_\_

Tel. (day) \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Jewish Historical Seminars

## THE JEWS OF THE NETHERLANDS AND ENGLAND

July 7 - July 18

Led by Prof. Yom Tov Assis, of the History of the Jewish People Dept. at the Hebrew University, the tour will study the re-establishment of the Jewish communities in Western Europe following the medieval expulsions.

We tour Amsterdam, the island of Ouderkerk, the Hague, Leiden, London, Lincoln, Cambridge, York, Stratford-upon-Avon, Oxford, Guildford, Canterbury and Ramsgate.

Includes daily lectures, flights on El Al and Air UK, all tours and entrance fees, first class hotels with buffet breakfast, kosher meals on Shabbat (Friday night and Shabbat lunch), local English guides and an English-speaking escort.

Price: US\$ 2190 per person in a double room.

For reservations and further information:  
Jo-Anne Greenblatt, Tel. 02-342079,  
E-Mail: greenbl@yam-suff.co.huji.ac.il (Greenblatt) or Debbie Zuberi, Tel. 02-345191.  
The trip is in conjunction with Zioritours, 19 Hillel St., Jerusalem, Fax. 02-255329.

### THE THIRD ANNUAL TANTUR CONFERENCE ON RELIGION AND CULTURE

May 14 - 16, 1996

Women of Faith in Culture and Society (Christian, Druze, Jewish and Muslim)

Co-sponsored by Tantar in cooperation with The Konrad Adenauer Foundation and the Swedish Church Mission

PUBLIC EVENTS (in English)

**Tuesday, May 14**  
2:00 p.m. — Women's Stories of Faith (in dance and drama)  
Martha Ann Kirk — Professor of Religious Studies, San Antonio, Texas  
4:00 p.m. — Lectures: Two Women Look Again at the Creation Stories  
Korann Amra Bone, teacher, Westhill College, Birmingham, England  
Bible: Inat Ramon, Rabbi, Jerusalem  
7:30 p.m. — How State and Religious Concepts of Personal Law Affect Women  
Panel of three lawyers:  
Kamela Jadan, Haifa  
Hannan Bakri Rejayan, Women's Legal Aid, Jerusalem  
Susan Weiss, Jerusalem

**Wednesday, May 15**  
4:00 p.m. — Keynote Lecture: Middle East Feminism and Women of Faith — Is This a Contradiction in Terms?  
Amal T. Ibrahim, Chief Editor, Middle East Foundation, Cairo

**Thursday, May 16**  
4:00 p.m. — Panel: Women of Faith in Leadership and Decision-Making Roles — Perspectives from Three Religions  
Amal Darwish, Center for Women, Acre  
Rivka Lubitch, teacher, Nir Ezyon to be announced.

Tantar Ecumenical Institute for Theological Studies is located at the corner of Harosmerin St. to Gilo and just north of the Bethlehem check-point. From Jerusalem, go south on Hebron Road and turn right onto Harosmerin St. and left into the Tantar Gate for parking. Bus 30 stops at the gate. Bus 31 stops nearby.

Concurrent meetings are being held on these same days for an already selected group of women from the four religious traditions. Public events are open to the general public, without charge. Dinner is available on Tuesday at 8:30 p.m. (charge made). For more information, contact the Tantar office, P.O. Box 18656, Jerusalem, Tel. 02-760911, Fax. 02-760914.

02-760911



Major tough Europe

# It's all Greek to this singer

HELEN KAYE

WHEN he headlines at the big Athens nightclubs, the surprisingly large number of Israelis in the audience sing along.

Now Lefteris Pantazis is returning the favor.

When the popular singer, who describes his music as "Greek pop with a folk flavor," makes his local debut at the Mann Auditorium on May 11, two songs in Hebrew will be on the program. They are "Where are you my love?" and "We'll pledge each other."

"I am singing these songs because it's the minimum I can do to an audience that shows me so much appreciation," says Pantazis, through his songwriter and English translator Stelios Lazaros, as the two click plastic worry beads in a Tel Aviv hotel lobby.

Pantazis is a homespun sophisticate whose first hit single in 1973 was called "O Lustrakos," a salute to his not so recent past. A *Lustrakos* is a shoe-shine boy, and in his younger life *Lustrakos* Pantazis warbled to his clients as he shined their shoes on an Athens pavement.

He also sold rugs and bagels, and worked as a plumber. Because his father had died, he was at 19 already the breadwinner for his mother and his three brothers and sisters, who all lived in one room.

"It's no shame to work," he beams, "if you work well and con-



Lefteris Pantazis, who will make his local debut in Tel Aviv, has been compared to both Julio Iglesias and Charles Aznavour.

scientiously. My father taught me that."

Those days are far behind him. He's 40 now, and when he gives concerts in his native country it's before an audience of 5,000 fans a night. As well as having 31 albums to his credit, some of which have gone gold and platinum, he owns a women's basketball team, and is a dedicated football enthusiast and a philanthropist. He's been com-

pared to both Julio Iglesias and Charles Aznavour.

Pantazis, dressed all in black, has a round face and smiles readily. However, the velvet outside covers a steel-hard determination.

He was born in Tashkent in the old USSR to ethnic Greek parents from the Black Sea area where their ancestors had lived since Ottoman times. When World War II broke out, his parents and others

fled to the interior of the country. When Pantazis was 10, the family went to Greece and settled in the port town of Piraeus.

The Russian-speaking boy learned Greek (he still speaks Russian), and sang.

He sang when his father played the bouzouki for friends. He taught himself guitar and, like a *klezmer*, wandered from house to house, from party to party, playing and

singing. Friends - the family had moved to Athens by then - persuaded him to try his luck on a radio talent show. He did. He won four of them and sang on the radio for the first time in 1969.

Since then he's never looked back. He's sung all over the world, including Australia, the US and of course in Europe. And, surprisingly for a Greek, he's even very popular in Turkey.

# Toothless parody of the Prince of Darkness

DRACULA: DEAD AND LOVING IT

★ ★

Directed by Mel Brooks. Screenplay by Brooks, Rudy De Luca, and Steve Haiserman. Hebrew title: *Dracula Met Vohov* at Zeh. 90 minutes. English dialogue, Hebrew subtitles. Parental guidance suggested.

Cost: Dennis... Leslie Nielsen  
De Van Helsing... Mel Brooks  
Renfield... Peter MacNicol  
Mina... Amy Yasbeck

WHEN he thumbs his nose at decorum and pretense, Mel Brooks is one of the funniest men alive. The Torquemada musical number in *The History of the World, Part I*, for example, was hilariously tasteless, with its Esther Williams-styled chorus girls sporting swimsuits

beneath their nuns' habits, and Brooks himself as a singing, dancing, bawling Grand Inquisitor.

His 2000-Year-Old-Man routine, too, was an inspired bit of stand-up: there, interviewed by straightman Carl Reiner, he played a grumpy Jewish bimillemarian. "Were you a slow developer?" Reiner asks.

"Verry, verry slow," boasts Brooks. "I breastfed for 200 years." "Now, really, sir. Who did you breastfeed with? Who breastfed you?"

"I used to con a lotta ladies into doing it..."

Most of his better gags work in the same extreme way. With mock seriousness, Brooks will set the scene for a familiar genre (a Hitchcockian thriller in *High Anxiety*, an old Western in *Blazing Saddles*, a silent movie in *Silent*

ADINA HOFFMAN

*Movie*) and then, quite abruptly, he'll smash the frame and our expectations by using some rude aside or blatant anachronism. At once verbal and physical, the best of his comedy combines elements of Groucho's caustic patter and Harpo's honking horn. It's as savvy as it is vulgar.

In *Dracula: Dead and Loving It* all the elements and fog machines are in place for another of Brooks's irreducibly goofy, taboo-busting parodies. Leslie Nielsen, of *Naked Gun* fame, plays the batty Count, and Brooks dons a Freudian goatee and broad German accent for the role of Dr. Van Helsing, the physician determined to beat the vam-

pire by any means necessary: garlic, crosses, a stake through the heart.

The pairing of Brooks and Nielsen seems promising, and for at least one routine - an argument in "ancient Moldavian" where each is determined to have the last word - it is, sort of. But the real belly laughs never come in *Dracula*, a film whose timing is comic but whose punchlines are strangely not.

Brooks's directing style has always been sloppy and rather haphazard. This was forgivable, however, when the jokes were sharp and numerous. The problem in *Dracula* is that the script, co-written by Brooks, Rudy De Luca and Tom Haberman, simply isn't amusing. The stinks range from passable (like the slurring-through-a-straw sound that Dracula makes

when he drinks the blood of a beautiful young maiden) to really leaden. What's worse, some of the better lines are reshaped three or four times, till every last giggle has been drained away.

Odd as it sounds for a Mel Brooks film, *Dracula: Dead and Loving It* doesn't veer far enough from Bram Stoker's classic vampire story.

To fly as parody it would need to introduce some new, wild twist or character - like the hysterical scientist Gene Wilder played in the director's *Young Frankenstein*, or the neurotic Prince John of *Robin Hood: Men in Tights*. Instead, Brooks attempts mild comic variations on Stoker's familiar characters. The result isn't any subtler than his usual; it's just more subdued and predictable.

# The walls have ears for this musician

HELEN KAYE

TEN years ago conductor Paul McCreech renovated a Victorian house from top to bottom. If he had the time, he says, he'd rebuild and refinish old furniture, but he doesn't because he's busy doing sort of the same for music.

Imagine hearing and seeing the 1595 coronation of a Venetian doge in the cathedral where it happened, or a famous 1608 concert in a magnificent Renaissance hall whose walls and ceilings are painted by Tintoretto.

The surroundings will be somewhat less august, however, when the ensemble performs Bach's *F* major Mass and Cantata No. 65 at the Israel Festival on June 2 and 3.

In 1990, McCreech and his 29-member Gabrieli Consort & Players created *A Venetian Coronation* - which presented the sequence of music Andrea and Giovanni Gabrieli (for whom the consort is named) wrote for the coronation of Doge Marino

Grimaldi in San Marco.

Last year he scouted all Venice to find seven baroque organs for *Music at San Rocco*, his reconstruction of that 1608 concert at the famous Scuola Grande di San Rocco.

McCreech calls his often sumptuous reconstructions of famous musical events "projects," and their purpose is very much to make this 16th- and 17th-century music intelligible to the public. He started them because he wondered "why did composers write the way they did?"

"Most conductors with a month to prepare a new score would spend the whole time going over every note. Not me. If I had a month, I'd spend about two days on the music and the rest of the time on everything else, because what surrounds the music is really where interpretation begins."

"That's why we don't perform in costume. Music has to mean

something today. Finding out how it was performed in its own time is to give us greater understanding of what that music might mean to us today."

McCreech is speaking from his home in a village with the mysterious medieval name of Long Clawson. He lives in a Georgian farmhouse "from 1790 with a view over beautiful fields. I spend too much time in airport lounges, so I need something beautiful to look at when I'm home."

He was born 36 years ago in London to a music-loving family. He studied piano and sang in church choirs before his voice broke, but when he went to study music at Manchester University he had no doubt he wanted to be a conductor.

McCreech's first interest was 20th-century music, but "when I was introduced to the older repertoire I became fascinated by the mixture of quality music and the

historical angle of its performance. It's an attitude of mind really."

"There are universal truths in art, and what fascinates me is the way music can transmit those messages over 200-300 years. It's a remarkably resilient art form."

He created what was to develop into the Gabrieli Consort in 1982, and over the years - as well as the projects and performing the better-known music by such as Bach, Monteverdi, Purcell - McCreech goes after lesser-known repertoire.

McCreech chose Bach for the Israel Festival, because "next year we're going to make a big double album which will be a complete morning service in Bach's Leipzig with all the prayers and the other music [for the service], so we'll have some idea of how Bach's music related to the process of religious worship as a whole. Did you know that they actually closed the city gates while the main services were going on?"

# For the woman who has it all - a museum

DAVID KLIGMAN  
SAN FRANCISCO

IT was Ken Joachim's dream, and he held fast to it.

He refused to listen to the naysayers who warned that he was throwing away his life savings, all \$200,000.

After all, he said, "The man who built the Golden Gate Bridge, everybody thought he was crazy."

But Joachim is not building a bridge. He is building a very different sort of monument - a museum and gallery dedicated to the singer, actress and director whose name is as distinctive as her voice and face: Streisand.

The Hello Gorgeous! museum, named after the star's opening line in the 1968 film *Funny Girl*, is scheduled to open to the public May 10. Located in the heart of San Francisco's largely gay Castro District, the gallery is an opportunity for fans to revisit the vocalist's 35-year career.

"You don't have to wait to pay tribute to someone when they're dead," Joachim says. "In this

country, that's what we do. We honor them after they're gone. Why not honor them now?"

Inside a large glass case at the front of the restored house are Streisand-like mannequins dressed to recreate scenes from her films. The displays will change monthly. The first: Streisand in a leopard coat-and-

hat outfit like the one she wore in *Funny Girl*.

A narrow walkway to the two-level museum is lined with posters from Streisand's 15 movies. They range from classic Streisand (*Funny Girl*, *The Way We Were*) to clunkers (*The Main Event*) to her more recent films (*The Prince of Tides*).

For the art gallery upstairs, Joachim commissioned artists to create oil paintings and charcoal sketches based on famous Streisand photos.

And downstairs, the museum store also displays collectibles, including glass-encased displays of her 50 albums, magazines and other odds and ends. (AP)

In these times you cannot AFFORD to be without THE JERUSALEM POST

# A Minsk coat for Russian opera

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

SERGEI Cortes has a family history as odd as his multicultural name suggests.

The family originally came from Moscow and St. Petersburg, explains the 61-year-old artistic director of the Minsk Opera Company.

"They ran away to South America after the [Russian] revolution but then my grandfather wanted to return and so we came back in 1955."

The Soviet authorities resettled the family from Buenos Aires in Minsk, now in Belarus, where Cortes still lives with his wife and two sons.

The Minsk Opera will open the Beit She'an Festival tomorrow night with one of its major productions, Tchaikovsky's masterpiece *Eugene Onegin*. The production is traditional, says Cortes.

"It's about 10 years old or more and because it is in an open space we are changing some things, not the staging but some things so that it will look beautiful for the outdoors."

"We already did *Carmen* in the open air in Hamburg so we are used to such productions."

Cortes's previous career as an opera composer came to an end when he accepted his current position five years ago.

For many years the Minsk Opera House was just one of many small opera houses throughout the Soviet Union, performing a mixed repertoire always in Russian.

But with the political changes several significant changes have

national opera of Belarus and not just another of many Soviet opera houses.

Four years ago the company started touring Spain, Germany and Poland which resulted in a change in its language policy.

"Now we are doing all operas in their original language. I believe you have to do all operas in the original, you have to be faithful to the composer and translations always change the original, no matter how good they are."

Cortes prefers the new situation in which the Minsk opera is the

"It's better now that we are a democratic state. We are now sovereign and can decide all our questions without asking Moscow where we can tour and when."

"We live only by the funding of our government who pays the salaries of the 600 people who work in the theater."

In addition to tomorrow's performance, *Eugene Onegin* can be seen in Beit She'an on Thursday and Saturday.

SEE IT IN HEBREW HEAR IT IN ENGLISH! COMEDY OF ERRORS May 14 at 8:30 p.m. MIDNIGHT PRAYER (Tikun Hatzot) May 21 at 8:30 p.m. THE AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL JERUSALEM announces to the public Effective Monday, May 20, 1996, the reception hours of the visa section will be changed. The section will now be open to the public from 8:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., Monday through Friday. This change will apply to all those seeking services related to immigrant and non-immigrant visas.



# THE JERUSALEM POST

F. DAVID RADLER, Chairman, Board of Directors  
YEHUDA LEVY, President & Publisher  
Founded in 1932 by GERSHON AGRON

DAVID BAR-ILLAN, Executive Editor  
JEFF BARAK, Managing Editor  
ALEC ISRAEL, Associate Editor, Copy  
DAN IZENBERG, News Editor  
DAVID BRINN, Night Editor  
SAM ORBAUM, Features Editor  
THOMAS O'DWYER, Foreign Editor  
JUDY MONTAGU, Op-Ed Editor  
AMOTZ ASA-EL, Business Editor

AVI GOLAN, Executive Vice President, Marketing & Advertising  
PAUL STASZEWSKI, CPA, Vice President, Finance  
YOSSI HORN, Vice President, Production  
STANLEY SCRIBNER, Circulation Manager  
BENZION MILLER, Tel Aviv Office Manager

EDITORIAL OFFICES AND ADMINISTRATION The Jerusalem Post Building, P.O. Box 81, Romema, Jerusalem (91000) Telephone 02-315666. Fax 02-389527. CIRCULATION - 02-315610. Fax 02-389017. ADVERTISING - 02-315608. 02-315637-40. Fax 02-388408. TEL AVIV: 5 Rehov Hamasgar, P.O. Box 28398 (61283) Telephone 03-6390333, Fax 03-6390277. HALFA: 20 Nordau, Haifa, Haifa, Telephone 04-8625166. Published daily, except Saturday, in Jerusalem, Israel by The Palestine Post Ltd. Printed by The Jerusalem Post Press in Jerusalem. Registered at the G.P.O. © The Jerusalem Post 1996. Reproduction, or storage in a retrieval system, or in any other form is prohibited without permission. Editors: 1932-1955 GERSHON AGRON, 1955-1974 TED LURIE, 1974-1975 LEA BEN DOR, 1975-1989 ARI RATH and ERWIN FRENKEL, 1990-1992 N. DAVID GROSS. INTERNET EDITION: http://www.jpost.co.il General E-mail: jpedi@jpost.co.il Editorial E-mail: editors@jpost.co.il Subscriptions E-mail: subs@jpost.co.il

## The Covenant deadline

HAVING characterized the decision of the Palestine National Council (PNC) on the Palestinian Covenant as "the most important event in the Middle East in a hundred years," Prime Minister Shimon Peres obviously wants to believe that the covenant has indeed been changed. But if the letter from Yasser Arafat he distributed to the cabinet yesterday is any indication, the original judgment by such experts as Prof. Yehoshua Porat of the Hebrew University - that no specific changes in the covenant have been made - must stand.

Repeating almost verbatim the initial report on the PNC resolution by the Palestinian news agency Wafa, the Arafat letter says: "The [charter] is hereby amended by canceling the provisions that are contrary to the letters exchanged between the PLO and the government of Israel. The decision to amend the charter was taken at an extraordinary session of the PNC in Gaza between April 22-25."

"The text [of the resolution] reads: 1. The Palestine National Charter is hereby amended by canceling the articles that are contrary to the letters exchanged between the PLO and the government of Israel on 9-10 September 1993. 2. The legal committee is assigned with the task of redrafting the Palestinian National Charter in order to present it to the first session of the Palestine National Council."

One need not have a particularly probing mind to ask a simple question: Which articles have been changed or canceled, and to what have they been changed? Alternatively, one could ask about the fate of each article. Is Article 1, which calls Palestine the homeland of the Palestinian people, being canceled or changed to allow that it is also the Jewish homeland? Is Article 2, which defines Palestine's borders as those of the British Mandate and calls it an indivisible unit, now canceled?

Every covenant article, from the first to the 30th (out of 33) implies that Israel has no right to exist. Have they all been changed and canceled, or retained? And if they are to be changed, what will replace them - the same ideas in different language? A declaration of Palestinian sovereignty in the territories or in all of Palestine with Jerusalem its capital? A call for peaceful coexistence with Israel?

That it is impossible to get an answer to these questions is not only suspicious. It is tantamount to a Palestinian admission that the whole exercise is a hoax. In fact, yesterday's announcement by the head of the PNC's Judicial Committee, Faisal Hamdi Hussaini, that he would submit a new covenant in three months in which 21 articles will be changed or canceled is an admission that nothing specific has been done. According to the Oslo 2 agreement, the deadline for changing the covenant is tomorrow, May 7.

As the Center for Security Policy in Washington put it last week, "The PNC merely

approved a statement that assigns to another group responsibility for changing the covenant in unspecified ways without any clear schedule. At some undetermined point, these recommendations will go to yet another group, which will, in turn, act upon it."

To understand how all this has come about, it may be helpful to recall that on February 19, the Egyptian Middle East News Agency (MENA) reported that, according to Palestinian sources, Yoel Singer, the Foreign Ministry's legal adviser, had held secret meetings in Tunis with Arafat's chief negotiator Mahmoud Abbas, better known as Abu Mazen.

They discussed "a suitable formula for the amendment Israel is demanding to the PNC Charter and the deletion of the clauses calling for the destruction of Israel. The sources note that Singer stressed the need to hold a PNC meeting as soon as possible to make this amendment in the current charter or the new one. He also stressed the need to make the amendment before the Israeli elections scheduled for the end of May to strengthen the Labor party's position in the elections and the position of Prime Minister Shimon Peres."

If the developments of the past two weeks are any indication, this pre-election exercise has borne fruit. The covenant has not been changed, but the announcement that it would be changed seemed to suffice. President Bill Clinton, putting the prestige of the White House on the line, stated that "Arafat said that there would be a revision in the Palestinian Covenant by the first of May. Under difficult circumstances, he kept that commitment."

Clinton rewarded the PLO leader with the ultimate American gesture of recognition and respect: He received Arafat at the Oval Office. The gesture was made at Peres's request. Obviously, even a vague PNC announcement of the intention to make changes in the covenant had its price.

Nor the presumed covenant changes did not seem to faze Arafat. When asked at the National Press Club in Washington, "Have the Palestinians changed their dream of taking control of all of Palestine?" he answered in the spirit of the current covenant. According to AP, he became "suddenly angry," saying, "I do not answer this... this is unfair question." And when asked about Hamas, he repeated the charges that "an Israeli fanatic group," headed by Alishah Ravi, collaborated with Hamas and Avishai Jihad in "killing Palestinians and Jews." (Perhaps the news that Ravi was a General Security Service agent has not reached him.)

That a leader who so blatantly evades the fundamental issue of Israel's right to exist and utters offensive nonsense about Israeli-Hamas cooperation in terror can be treated seriously in Washington is beyond comprehension. That he is received in the Oval Office is nothing short of indecent.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### BETTER THIS WAY

Sir, - It is our great good fortune that, if the hostilities in Lebanon had to break out, they are happening while Labor-Meretz is still running the country.

Imagine the hell and brimstone Yossi Sarid and his ilk would be unleashing upon the Likud were they sitting comfortably in the opposition today. Half the country, the right wing, would have been branded as war-mongering baby-killers. They would be claiming that only the left is interested in and capable of maintaining peace and that a vote for Likud is a vote for war. Any explanation that we would have offered, no matter how convincing, would have fallen on cynical and

mocking ears. The left would have been demonstrating in the streets and calling for commissions of inquiry and resignations, like for Sabra and Shatilla. I never thought I would say it, but for this moment at least, I am glad it is Peres and Sarid in power and not Bibi and Sharon. The truth is that no matter how long or how hard you scream peace now, you cannot unilaterally declare peace. The other side has to want peace too. Whether Labor or Likud is in power, so long as there are Arab countries and organizations who seek our destruction, there will not be peace.

SHABTAI SHATSKY  
Ginot Shomron, Iowa City, Iowa.

### PR FAILURE

Sir, - The recent misfire in Lebanon, sadly resulting in many civilian fatalities, was subsequently ineptly managed by the government, resulting in another PR failure. They should have immediately begun damage control and taken the responsibility to promptly shifting responsibility to the UN for allowing Hizbullah to set up Katyushas and then fire them from their doorstep, blaming the civilians for not removing themselves far from the confrontation area as they had been warned to do, blaming Lebanon for not expelling Hizbullah, expressing outrage that Hizbullah would fire from a concentration of civilians.

Instead, the government was late in taking the offensive, apologetic, and didn't sharply place the blame where it rightly belonged. Anyone scanning TV is aware that Israel again lost another PR battle. Public relations work is a specialty requiring unique talents and skills. Almost all governments recognize that expertise in this area is essential in explaining their actions and promoting their agenda. Therefore, they engage their most talented and effective people for this role. Hopefully, our government will begin to understand and do likewise. WILLIAM SIMON  
Tel Aviv.

### BIASED REPORTING

Sir, - I am an American Jew whose parents are Holocaust survivors and who was raised as a Conservative Jew and a devout Zionist.

The American press is so anti-Israel and so slanted in its reporting that it was with great glee that I found your Web site. It's not so much what it reports here in the US, it's what it does not report that indicates the bias. CNN carried the entire film report on the car that was attacked and carried some civilians. The film was gruesome. What was worse, however, was the reporter's voice-over which unmistakably conveyed his belief that our mission in Lebanon was unjust and that Israel purposely attacked civilian targets. Almost never do we see a report on the damage done by the Katyushas!

Thank you for being on the Web and for providing such excellent journalism. JACOB PANKOWSKI  
Potomac, Maryland.

### EXERCISE IN FUTILITY

Sir, - I am surprised, to say the least, by David Bar-illan's contemptuous reaction to readers who dared to criticize his column (*Eye on the Media*, April 26). To accuse such readers, who are merely expressing an opinion, of calumny, is ridiculous and unworthy. (In my dictionary, calumny is "a malicious misinterpretation of facts.") Surely, readers are entitled to their opinions and, if these are negative with respect to *Eye on the Media*, so be it.

I am not one of those who think that "the column is a paranoid expression of the outmoded belief that the world is against us." My own personal opinion is that it is an exercise in futility, because it will not change by one iota the opinion of those who enjoy Israeli bashing, and who will continue to do so in spite of *Eye on the Media*.

I. SHANAN  
Tel Aviv.  
The purpose of the column is not to reform but to inform. Ed. J.P.



DLEG 96

## A nation of crybabies

CHARLES KRAUTHAMMER

US gas prices are up, and President Clinton, rising as always to soothe an anxious and troubled nation, has ordered urgent Energy and Justice Department investigations to find out why.

Why? How about - a wild guess - because supply is down and demand is up? Now, I know that I am not an expert and, unlike the two task forces, I have neither economists nor lawyers nor the FBI working for me. But I have confidence in the basic laws of economics that I'm willing to bet Energy Secretary O'Leary and Attorney-General Reno \$100 each that their million-dollar probes will do nothing more than confirm my hunch.

The short-run factors for the current spike are, by now, well known. This was a particularly long winter. It depleted stocks of heating oil and made the oil companies turn to refining gasoline later than they had expected.

Add to that an explosion in one very large California refinery that sharply curtailed production. Add the breakdown of talks with Iraq that would have brought more than half a million barrels a day to market and you've got a sudden, if temporary, oil shortage.

So much for the short run. The long-run causes are even more obvious. This is a country of a million Walter Mittys driving 75 mph in their gas-guzzling roadsters with moose head on the hood, a country whose crude oil production has dropped 32 percent in the last 25 years but will not drill for oil in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge for fear of disturbing the nesting habits of caribou - and we're shocked, shocked to find gasoline prices rising.

Let's review: Speed. Nixon instituted the 55 mph speed limit to save gas. The limit was repealed last year. People are flying down the interstates at ridiculous speeds. Want to drive faster? Fine. But it costs. Distance. The average registered American car traveled 11,839 miles in 1994. That is about 2,000 miles more per car than just 20 years ago. Love driving? So do I. But it costs.

## The reasons for rising US gas prices are clear

Fuel inefficiency. Sport utility vehicles are the rage. Problem is they guzzle gas. Fuel efficiency in the US rose steadily from about 13 miles per gallon in 1973 to 21 mpg in 1990. Since 1990, however, it has been stuck at 21 mpg. You would expect with older cars being phased out and new ones being phased in, fuel efficiency should continue to rise. It does not, in large part because Americans love commuting in vehicles designed for hunting elephants. Go figure. Hey, it's a constitutional right to have our follies. But it costs.

Supply. US crude oil production is in serious decline. In 1970 it was 9.6 million barrels a day. Today it is 6.5 million. The North Slope of Alaska holds potentially the largest oil field in North America. Unshakable opposition from Democrats has for 15 years prevented even test drilling there. Don't want to disturb a pristine environment, even in a place not one in a million Americans will ever see? Fine. Nothing wrong with that. But it costs.

The biggest crybabies of all are those ever so ecoconscious Californians. They are particularly agitated that their premium gas prices have now topped \$2 a gallon. Now, it happens that between 5 and 15 cents of that \$2 comes directly from a decision Californians made in 1991 to change to a less polluting reformulated gasoline starting March 1, 1996. Nothing wrong with wanting cleaner air. In fact, it is probably worth every penny. But spare us with the howl when it comes time to pay the pennies.

Bob Dole has lately been booting about a focus group survey that shows Americans would prefer leaving their children with him than with Bill Clinton. Dole seems to think he is running for national baby-sitter. Given the behavior of the electorate during this gas "crisis," he may be right. A nation snuffs itself with chocolate, then wakes up in the morning whining that it has a tummy ache. Bob Dole immediately calls for repeal of the chocolate tax. President Clinton, ever feeling our pain, orders a criminal investigation of the candy man and opens the strategic chocolate reserve. Pandering? Hardly. In a nation of crybabies, this is leadership.

(c) 1996, Washington Post Writers Group

## A pragmatic ally

JAY BUSHINSKY

Turkey could teach Israel a thing or two, especially in the realm of foreign policy and international relations.

The Turks know how to do what they deem essential for their national security without worrying about how their foreign friends may react. They are not inhibited by their image abroad or the kind of coverage they get in the international news media. And they do not allow irrelevant or obsolete considerations, such as the religious proclivities of their geographical neighbors, influence major policy decisions. A case in point: Turkey's delegation to the UN General Assembly voted against the resolution condemning Operation Grapes of Wrath.

Above all, they give the highest priority to their own national interests and do not defer to the strategic preferences or diplomatic conveniences of their allies, including those to whom they are bound by formal and explicit treaties.

So it was when then-prime minister Bulent Ecevit ordered his armed forces to invade and occupy the predominantly Turkish-speaking part of Cyprus 22 years ago.

And the same principle was followed by his successors in deciding to build the Ataturk Dam and thereby regulate the flow of Euphrates river water to Syria and Iraq as well in authorizing military operations against the Kurds' suspected PKK bases in northern Iraq.

When the tactical hospitality granted PKK personnel by Syria irritated the Ankara government it issued a stern warning to the Damascus regime. The Turks made it clear that they will not let President Hafez Assad use the PKK's terrorist activities and infrastructure to pressure them into increasing Syria's share of Euphrates water.

Acting in the belief that their enemy's enemy is their friend, the Turks concluded a military agreement with Israel on the basis of which the IAF's commander, Major-General Herzl Bodinger, was supposed to have been at the controls of one of the eight Israeli

## Turkey is much more than a relatively affordable tourist attraction

F-16 jets that landed at Turkey's Akinci air force base near Ankara for a week of joint military exercises. Operation Grapes of Wrath forced a postponement of Bodinger's flight, but the other pilots completed their mission.

## SELF-INTEREST always has been the watchword of Republican Turkey's foreign policy. That is one of the main reasons for its neutral posture during World War II. Rather than risk an invasion by the Nazi Wehrmacht after the fall of Greece, the Turkish government preferred not to take sides. It relied on a mutual-defense accord reached by the British and French after Italy's annexation of Albania. On the other hand, the Turks' dismay over the Ribbentrop-Molotov pact

## dispelled their gratitude for Soviet Russia's aid to Ataturk in his campaign to retain the Turkish homeland.

Since 1945, Turkey has never taken problem-solving initiatives in disputes to which it is a party, such as Cyprus. Unlike Israel, which invented, promoted and preached autonomy for the Palestinians, Turkey has not come up with any proposals whose implementation would require territorial concessions on its part. Turkey's territorial integrity always took precedence.

Nor have the Turks recruited foreign mediators to act as honest brokers between them and the Greeks, Greek Cypriots, Kurds, Syrians or Armenians. Their abstention undoubtedly is based on the assumption that whatever the go-between's nationality he or she inevitably would seek solutions compatible with or beneficial to

## A responsible premier

SUSAN HATTIS ROLEF

The orientalist Professor Yehoshua (Shuka) Porat, formerly a candidate on the Knesset list of Shinui and more recently a supporter of the Third Way, publicly announced last week he is going to vote for Binyamin Netanyahu for prime minister.

Porat, who by no means can be described as a right-winger, does not trust Prime Minister Shimon Peres. He believes the Oslo process initiated by Yitzhak Rabin and Peres is basically wrong, endangers Israel's security and that Peres is not fit to negotiate peace with the Arabs. He also agrees with MK Benny Begin's stance that the Palestinian promise to delete articles from the Palestine Covenant calling for Israel's liquidation is nothing but a hoax.

Since Porat is a serious academic who is well versed in Palestinian double-talk, his views carry weight. His bottom line is not that the peace process with the Palestinians should stop, only that someone much more prudent and responsible than Peres should conduct it. He is not certain that Netanyahu is the right man, but is willing to give him a chance.

This approach is legitimate, but not necessarily correct. Though the Palestinians, and particularly the PLO, deserve first prize for double-talk in the Middle East, the question to be asked is whether they have finally come to realize that the dream of Israel vanishing from the Middle East is no more realistic than the dream of many Israelis that the Palestinians

## count, so was Menachem Begin, who agreed to return to Egypt the whole of the Sinai Peninsula.

Furthermore, the assumption that Netanyahu is more responsible than Peres does not seem to be based on anything more than wishful thinking and anti-Peres prejudice. It is difficult to understand how anyone can believe that Netanyahu, whose double-talk in the course of the current election campaign has turned into a systematic method, is more trustworthy than Peres. And, if one adds to this the fact that Netanyahu has added to his "military flank" ex-generals Ariel Sharon, Rafael Eitan and the politically inexperienced Yitzhak Mordechai, while Peres's retired generals are Ehud Barak, Ori Orr, Binyamin Ben-Eliezer and Efraim Sneh, the argument that the former is more trustworthy than the latter becomes even harder to accept.

## It is difficult to understand how anyone can believe Netanyahu is more trustworthy than Peres

The argument that the Covenant's amendment is nothing but a hoax also seems to be based more on bias and dogma than reality.

TO LABEL Peres as irresponsible is unfair. He has never implemented anything that damages Israel's future and security, unless one rejects the basic premise upon which Labor's whole peace policy is based: that peace can only be achieved on the basis of Israeli withdrawal from most of the territories occupied by Israel in 1967. But if Peres is irresponsible on this

## count, so was Menachem Begin, who agreed to return to Egypt the whole of the Sinai Peninsula.

Furthermore, the assumption that Netanyahu is more responsible than Peres does not seem to be based on anything more than wishful thinking and anti-Peres prejudice. It is difficult to understand how anyone can believe that Netanyahu, whose double-talk in the course of the current election campaign has turned into a systematic method, is more trustworthy than Peres. And, if one adds to this the fact that Netanyahu has added to his "military flank" ex-generals Ariel Sharon, Rafael Eitan and the politically inexperienced Yitzhak Mordechai, while Peres's retired generals are Ehud Barak, Ori Orr, Binyamin Ben-Eliezer and Efraim Sneh, the argument that the former is more trustworthy than the latter becomes even harder to accept.

The writer is with the Chicago Sun-Times.

The writer is a political scientist.

**Drive Carefully! Arrive Safely!**

(c) 1996, Washington Post Writers Group



Specialized

A nation of cry babies

# Still Running Is Age-Bashing Any Way to Beat Bob Dole?

By RICHARD L. BERKE

WASHINGTON A new Democratic Party television commercial takes a not-too-subtle swipe at Senator Bob Dole, age 72. After a shot of him side-by-side with Speaker Newt Gingrich, the announcer warns (emphasis added): "Their old ways don't work. President Clinton's plan — the new way."

Jack Quinn, the White House counsel, pointedly describes a recent Dole speech as "tired, old, worn-out rhetoric."

And Ann Lewis, deputy manager of the Clinton campaign, implies feebleness when she ridicules remarks by the Senator as "disconnected and dysfunctional."

Such coded partisan formulations aren't the half of it: the old-guy bashing of Mr. Dole in political cartoons and late-night comedy routines has

Paradoxically, too, it comes at a time when people are living longer, when proposals to curb age discrimination are gaining currency and when the Baby Boomers are starting at middle age and no doubt thinking hard about their vulnerabilities. The readiness to attack Mr. Dole over his age may reflect many Americans' state of denial about age as well as the premium on fitness and youth that is a hallmark of the times.

## Crying Foul

Whatever the reason, defenders of the elderly say it is not fair.

"Age is simply not a measure of competence in any way, shape or form and people need to be judged on their own individual characteristics," said Michele Pollak, a lobbyist for the American Association of Retired Persons. "And that's true whether they're running for President, for Senate, or whether they want to be a police officer, a firefighter or a schoolteacher."

Were he to be inaugurated on Jan. 20, Mr. Dole would be, at 73, the oldest President ever to enter the Oval Office (Mr. Reagan, the oldest to have taken the oath to date, was just shy of 70 at his inauguration in 1981.) The grim inevitability of the actuarial tables of course demands a hard look at Mr. Dole's physical and mental fitness for the job, especially since he has already been treated for prostate cancer. The injuries he suffered in Italy during World War II — which left him with a crippled right arm — do not make it any easier for him to age gracefully.

In some ways, though, the piling on Mr. Dole seems misplaced. He looks younger than the former Army buddies who show up at his events, and he has a stamina that belies his age. Curiously, he may be a juicy target for age-bashers not so much for chronological reasons but because of his personal style. A popular critique among Democrats and many Republicans is that Mr. Dole lacks a fresh vision, and that criticism melds with the notion that he is too old.

In addition, the age question is heightened because the gap between Mr. Dole and Mr. Clinton is 23 years — the Senator is old enough to be the President's father.

Mr. Dole was born in the flapper era, Mr. Clinton, who turns 50 on Aug. 19 — that will make him eligible to join the American Association of Retired Persons — was in diapers when John F. Kennedy was elected to the House of Representatives.

"Dole's more vulnerable to this than Reagan because Reagan has a much more vigorous image as a person, more charisma, more sense of energy," said Robert H. Binstock, a professor of aging, health and society at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland. "I don't think it's an uncalled-for ageism. Plus, Dole feeds into it by evoking images of himself as a World War II person rather than

Reagan defused the age issue with a joke. Dole tries, but he isn't as deft.

reached an intensity that makes the jokes about Ronald Reagan in the 1980's seem like gentle kidding. Dole age jokes ("Dole is 96") are now as much a part of popular culture as gibes at Madonna's impending motherhood, and sometimes as mean-spirited.

"Bob Dole is calling himself an optimist," David Letterman said in a recent monologue. "I understand this because a lot of people would look at a glass as half empty. Bob Dole looks at the glass and says, 'What a great place to put my teeth.'"

"Bob Dole's senior aides are urging him to hurry up and make his list of potential choices for Vice President," Jay Leno commented in one of his many age-related digs at the candidate. "Searching for a Vice President doesn't bother me. What bothers me is that Bob Dole has senior aides. How old are they — 90, 100? I mean, senior aides?"

## The Acceptable Bias


Racism and sexism have long been taboo in mainstream American politics, but in this Presidential campaign there is a high tolerance for ageism. In fact, Democrats say it may be their ticket to keeping the White House in November. In this election year, it seems, maturity is out and youth and vigor are in.

But the frenzy of ridicule is at odds with what used to be an abiding American virtue: respect for your elders.

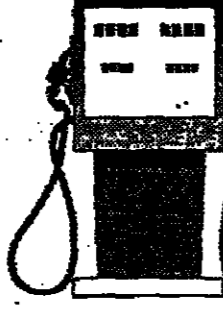


At 72, Bob Dole has become the butt of age jokes. Last year he showed off his form on the treadmill in his apartment in Washington.

**The Third Man**  
In Russia, he holds the cards.  
By Michael Specter **2**



**Gas Guzzling**  
Price is only one reason.  
By Matthew L. Wald **3**



**Sperm Counts**  
Mysteries of male fertility: are sperm counts really lowering?  
By Gina Kolata **3**

## Tobacco on Trial Making a Case for Death

By LAURA MANSNERUS

SO far, it's Taxpayers v. Merchants of Death. Eight states have sued tobacco companies, and more are getting in line, with a new legal theory: since the states incur Medicaid expenses for smoking-related illness, they should be reimbursed by the industry that causes it.

There's a snag, though. The states are probably not losing all the money they are asking for. The inconvenient truth, at least as many economists see it, is that smokers cover their own medical costs, not only by paying cigarette taxes — now more than 50 cents a pack — but also by dying before collecting their full share of health and retirement benefits.

The tobacco companies aren't sure how to cast this "death benefit argument," or if they should even raise it. And it may be rejected by judges. But the litigation raises questions for a society obsessed with toting up misery in dollars: How do we calculate what smokers cost everybody else? Should we acknowledge that sometimes death is helpful to the public treasury? And if that's so, where might such an argument end?

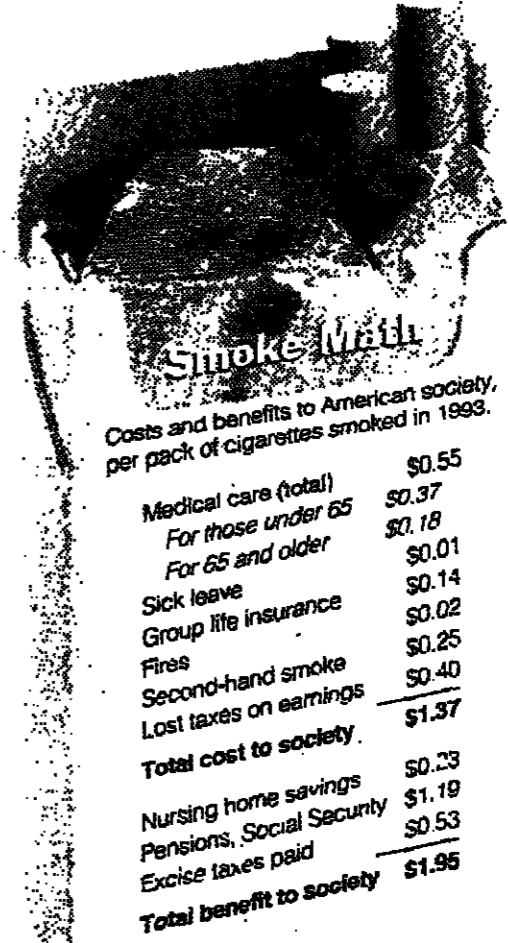
"Killing yourself by smoking incurs costs, which for yourself are horrendous and miserable, and for everyone else include higher insurance costs," said Peter W. Huber, a senior fellow at the Manhattan Institute for Policy Research, who has written on product liability. "But there are offsets. It's quite possible that smokers are doing us all a small favor. It's a ghastly argument — it's horrible — but if you're going to have an economic case, you've got to use

economics. You can't use sentiment." Last week Maryland became the latest state to file suit, following Mississippi, Florida, Minnesota, West Virginia, Massachusetts, Texas and Louisiana; more states, including New Jersey and Connecticut, plan to file. They are suing not on behalf of smokers but for their own expenses. So they must establish that losses have occurred, and then, if they win, establish the amounts. The tobacco companies want an accounting of offsets, which means estimating what the states would have spent treating smokers, had they lived longer.

## Economists at Work

Economists have already done a larger accounting, testing assertions that smoking imposes a big economic burden on society. Their answer, usually, is that it doesn't. A widely cited study conducted for the Rand Corporation by Willard Manning, a health economist at the University of Minnesota, found that smokers had more medical expenses than nonsmokers and died about four years earlier; after they paid cigarette taxes, society came out ahead — in dollars, anyway.

In a 1994 study based in part on the Manning data, W. Kip Viscusi, a Duke University economist, found that smokers subsidize nonsmokers even without taxes. He put the medical costs attributable to smoking at 55 cents a pack sold, and added much smaller amounts for sick leave, higher insurance premiums and damage from fires caused by cigarettes. Smokers' early deaths cost the public another 40 cents a pack in forgone taxes on



Source: W. Kip Viscusi, professor at Duke University

Continued on page 4

## The World

# This Russian Democrat May Bury His Cause

By MICHAEL SPECTER

**I**f the fate of Russia hinges on one man in this pivotal election year, most people would assume that man to be President Boris N. Yeltsin. Some would choose another name: Mr. Yeltsin's Communist opponent, Gennadi A. Zyuganov.

They might all be wrong. At this point, the person most likely to influence the outcome of Russia's presidential voting beginning on June 16 is probably a candidate with almost no chance of winning: Grigory A. Yavlinsky. Mr. Yavlinsky, an economist who leads the largest democratic faction in Parliament, is running as the only man who truly represents reform in Russia.

That may be, but the bizarre alliance announced last week among Mr. Yavlinsky, retired Gen. Aleksandr I. Lebed — who talks like a Russian Pinochet — and a crusading, Ross Perot-like eye surgeon cum entrepreneur, Svyatitslav Fyodorov, has made it clear to many people here that Mr. Yavlinsky is not thinking only of democracy these days. With most polls saying he would get less than 10 percent of the vote, Mr. Yavlinsky seems to be thinking mostly of himself.

"The answer to the question will Russia defeat Communism rests with one man," Anatoly B. Chubais, a free-market economist ousted as Mr. Yeltsin's Deputy Prime Minister in January, told journalists last week. Mr. Chubais has swallowed his pride — as have many other reformers — and joined the Yeltsin campaign. "Everything depends on Grigory Yavlinsky," he says. "He can't fail to see that he won't become president. But he will take 70 percent of his votes from Yeltsin. And that could guarantee that Mr. Zyuganov wins."

Mr. Yavlinsky says repeatedly that that kind of talk is nonsense. He claims that if there is a runoff between Mr. Yeltsin and Mr. Zyuganov, Mr. Yeltsin will not have a chance. (If nobody receives 50 percent in the first round on June 16 there will be a runoff between the top two finishers three weeks later.) Although he returned no phone calls for this article, Mr. Yavlinsky speaks to the press frequently and he has been clear in stating his belief that the real legacy of Russian reform rests on his shoulders alone.

### Dangerous Game

"He is taking the moral high ground as if politics don't matter," said Michael McFaul, a specialist on Russia's emerging democratic movements at Stanford University. "It is a tradition of Russian intellectuals to do the righteous thing even if it makes no strategic sense. But the stakes are way too high for that and he is playing a very dangerous game. History will remember who was the spoiler if things go bad for democracy."

Mr. Yavlinsky, 44, leader of the Yabloko Party in Parliament, has spent much of his young life in the upper echelons of Russian politics. In 1989 he wrote a blueprint for radical economic reform that was praised in the West

but never implemented by the former Soviet President, Mikhail S. Gorbachev. Mr. Yavlinsky is a frequent visitor to Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government where he often speaks — in perfect English — and is widely admired in Washington.

Many people think he is actually trying to use his liberal credentials to become Mr. Yeltsin's Prime Minister. In that scenario, he would throw his support to Mr. Yeltsin in the second round. Mr. Yavlinsky could clearly help Mr. Yeltsin regain in a second term the strong reform support he has lost by failing to stop the civil war in Chechnya and by appearing to move away from his initial economic initiatives.

For Mr. Yavlinsky, holding the post would mean that if the 65-year-old President were to die in office — always a possibility, given his well-publicized health problems — Mr. Yavlinsky would take over for up to three months

### Yavlinsky looks like a spoiler for Yeltsin and a boon to the Communists.

before having to call new elections.

There are several problems with that scenario, however. First, it is unclear whether people who voted against Mr. Yeltsin in the first round would change in the second. In the United States there is plenty of time between the primaries and the general election to heal factional wounds and unite behind a single candidate. In Russia there will be a few weeks and bitterness rarely recedes that quickly. Mr. Yavlinsky has been a vocal opponent of Mr. Yeltsin at least since the unpopular war in Chechnya began in late 1994, and it is hard to see how he can quickly reverse his field now that he has fully unleashed his anger.

Second, the Russian Constitution now requires that a Prime Minister be approved by Parliament. (That was not necessary when the current Prime Minister, Viktor S. Chernomyrdin, was appointed to the post.) Parliament is now largely run by people who oppose Mr. Yavlinsky's politics, so it is difficult to imagine that he could muster the votes necessary to win confirmation.

"The only real explanation is that the guy thinks he can win," said Yegor T. Galdar, a former Prime Minister under Mr. Yeltsin who broke with him over the Chechnya war but last week said he would back the President because only he could stop a return to Communism. "I am prepared to look at any realistic scenario. But I don't see any way in the current scheme that Mr. Yavlinsky can expect to reach the second round of voting."

During the past two years there have been many debates in Russia about how to bring the reform-minded voters to the polls. Mr. Yavlinsky has always argued that more democracy is better, so more democratic candi-



Gen. Aleksandr I. Lebed, left, and Grigory A. Yavlinsky conferring in Pushkin Square in Moscow last month.

dates would be better too. He said in interviews before December's parliamentary elections — and since — that there was nothing to be feared from fielding many reform groups in a new country.

But the elections in December produced an overwhelmingly Communist and nationalist legislature, in part because the reform movement here has become so splintered that few factions could receive the 5 percent of votes necessary to enter Parliament. For this outcome many blame Mr. Yavlinsky, who has never been willing

to join with other liberal groups. Because Mr. Yavlinsky is clearly so astute, it is hard to charge him with naïveté. That leaves other motives.

"Any union that excludes the strongest non-Communist candidate — Boris Yeltsin — is destined for catastrophe," said Vyacheslav Nikonov, writing in last week's issue of Moscow News. "It is clear now that the best real chance for a Communist victory this year is through the work of a group — led by Mr. Yavlinsky — that says it is opposed to Communism above all."

### Through Thick and Thin

## Is Peace's 'Honest Broker' Too Close to Peres?

By STEVEN ERLANGER

**I**t was Middle East week in the Oval Office last week, with President Clinton dividing up his time in the usual disproportion: two long visits with Israel's Prime Minister Shimon Peres, and a brief Presidential one-on-one with a spruced-up, barbered, de-terrorized Yasir Arafat.

The Palestine Liberation Organization having finally voted to drop the clauses in its charter urging armed struggle to destroy the state of Israel, Mr. Clinton wanted to thank Mr. Arafat. But he also wanted to use the erstwhile terrorist as a prop for efforts to boost Mr. Peres, who faces a hard election on May 29, as well as boosting his own re-election image as a "foreign-policy President" who bringeth peace.

But after two violent and dramatic months in which Mr. Clinton has put the full weight of the United States not just behind Israel but behind the electoral ambitions of

### With attention fixed on Israeli feelings, Arabs feel left out.

one Israeli party, there is increasing concern among Middle East specialists that America is losing something crucial — its critical distance from Israel — and thereby damaging its ability to play the "honest broker" for Israelis and Arabs.

America remains the single most influential player in the Middle East. But in its refusal to criticize Israel's tight closure of the West Bank and Gaza or recent military activities in southern Lebanon, there is a growing sense that Washington has lost its sense of moral proportion, misplayed its hand with Syria and sown new seeds of popular, youthful anger under its own moderate Arab partners, who have taken their own risks for peace.

The Clinton Administration decided a year and a half ago to bind itself to Yitzhak Rabin, Mr. Peres and the Labor Party, to try to give skeptical Israelis the confidence to take the serious risks required for peace with the Palestinians and with Syria.

Earlier this year, Mr. Peres felt bold enough to call for early elections, but Israeli confidence, badly cracked by the assassination of Mr. Rabin, was then shattered by four suicide bombings in March by Palestinian rejectionists and then by a barrage of Katyusha rockets from southern Lebanon



Prime Minister Shimon Peres of Israel took his seat simultaneously with President Clinton last week at a White House ceremony.

into northern Israel.

But in the effort to save Israelis and save Mr. Peres, Mr. Clinton has chosen tactics that undermine the traditional American role as honest broker, said Edward P. Djerejian, a former American Ambassador to Syria and Israel and now director of the James A. Baker 3d Institute at Rice University. "The shift is wrong," he said, in particular the American failure to call for "restraint on both sides" in response to the Hezbollah attacks. "The United States is the only honest broker, from 1967 on," he said, "and it's very important to maintain well-known positions in a region where words have real meaning."

Senior Administration officials insist that it is "peace" they are supporting, not "Peres," and that support for Israel at its

most anxious moments was essential. They point to results: the successful American mediation to reinstall a cease-fire in Lebanon and northern Israel, and the ability of Mr. Arafat to change the P.L.O. charter in the midst of the Israeli shelling. "Our role isn't to be an umpire calling balls and strikes," one official said. "It's to get involved to preserve stability in the region, protect Israel's security and advance regional peace."

### Who Else, Indeed

In any event, this argument continues, who else is there to deal with except America, whether you're Benjamin Netanyahu, Mr. Peres's opponent in the elections, or Hafez al-Assad, the Syrian leader? And if you're

Mr. Assad, who else but America can bring Israel to the table?

Indisputable, the critics argue, but short-sighted. If America identifies too thoroughly with Israel, justifying anything its ally does in the name of peace, the critical sympathy needed among Arabs to bring about a truly transformed "neighborhood" in the Middle East is undermined, particularly as negotiations move to their most difficult stage, with both the Palestinians and Syria.

Unless Arabs retain a feeling that there is fair play and proportion, peace will be a great deal harder to reach, this argument goes. Those who oppose peace, or who, like Mr. Assad, see benefits in delay, will be made stronger. "It's an entirely Israel-centric policy, and it creates all kinds of problems," said Judith Kipper, director of the Middle East

### Instead of saying little, America might have called for restraint on both sides in Lebanon.

Forum of the Council on Foreign Relations. "It will get regurgitated later in the Arab world," she said, "in riots and unrest."

James J. Zogby of the Arab American Institute, a lobbying group, says, "By acquiescing to the Israeli assault on civilians and infrastructure in Lebanon and accepting the Israeli logic behind it, the United States has not only compromised its role as honest broker but also its Arab allies in the region."

Tahseen Basheer, a retired Egyptian diplomat and aide to Anwar Sadat, now at the federally funded United States Institute of Peace, said that "Mr. Clinton and Mr. Peres talk of a lovely future for the Middle East, but Mr. Peres, in the closure and in Grapes of Wrath, responded totally out of proportion to the challenge he faced."

### Alternatives

There would have been little Arab criticism of a measured deterrence of the Iran-sponsored Hezbollah, which rocketed northern Israel from Lebanon, Mr. Basheer said. "But to do it by making refugees of 10 percent of the Lebanese is not a future Mideast that Arabs like," he added. Similarly with the Palestinian fundamentalists of Hamas. "No Arab wants a future Palestine that renders the West Bank and Gaza into 500 separate villages and eight major towns separated from each other by Israeli-controlled highways, like a South African Bantustan," Mr. Basheer said.

No one questions the bedrock, bipartisan American commitment to Israel's security since Truman's day, Mr. Djerejian said. But if America's role as a powerful, honest broker is weakened — whether by tactics, a failure to restrain Israel or by visible Syrian contempt for a Secretary of State — "we'll never have any peace," he said. From military disengagement to Camp David to the Madrid peace process, he added, "the United States has to make both sides a bit unhappy to get anything done."

"History," Mr. Basheer said, "argues for peace, for the benefit of the average man in the Middle East. It is our only hope of modernization, of ending religious fanaticism and military regimes. But that can only happen if the peace is not one-sided, but a legitimate, fair peace that provides the Arabs a sense of pride and of fair play."

Basheer



# Ideas & Trends

## Measuring Men Up, Sperm by Sperm

By GINA KOLATA

**T**HE question sounds so simple: Do men today have fewer sperm than their forebears? And the answer seems easy to get: Just look at sperm counts at different time periods.

But such an exercise is fraught with peril, as the highly specialized medical experts called andrologists well know.

It turns out that sperm counts, which some people see as the very essence of manliness, are among the more mysterious measures of bodily functions, varying as much as tenfold, depending on such things as whether a man has ejaculated or had the flu recently and whether he is a hot-tub habitué.

Some popular beliefs about sperm counts — like the idea that jockey shorts lower the count by heating up a man's testicles — turn out to be myths. Meanwhile, new mysteries are appearing. Researchers are nearly clueless about how to interpret a report, published last week in the journal *Fertility and Sterility*, that sperm counts vary geographically, with sperm counts in New York nearly double those in Los Angeles.

The centers doing the sperm counts controlled the conditions in which sperm were collected, insisting, for example, on a fixed period of abstinence from sex prior to semen collection. And the investigators found no changes in sperm counts in each region for more than two decades, raising questions about allegations that environmental toxins were reducing sperm counts.

### To the Last Drop

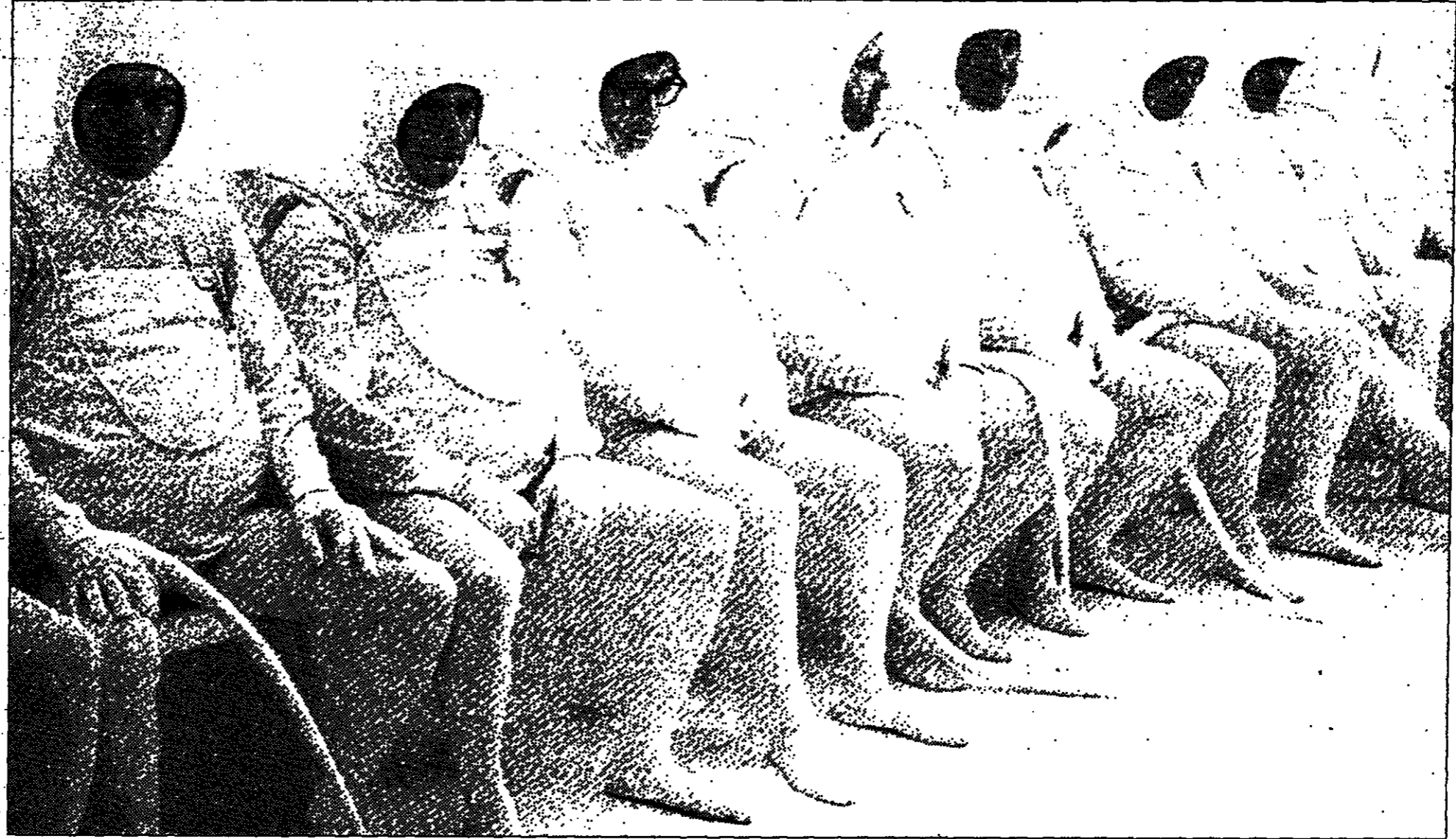
But one of the investigators, Dr. Harry Fisch at Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center, turned up something odd. He found that Los Angeles men had an average of 72.7 million sperm per milliliter of semen and New York men had 131.5 million sperm per milliliter. (A milliliter is roughly a drop.)

Unrelated studies of sperm counts in the rest of the world have shown widely varying counts, too. The most recent study of France's average sperm count, for instance, put it at 98.8 million, the last in the United Kingdom was 91.3 million, Hong Kong had 83 million, Germany 74.4 million, Greece 72 million, Brazil 67.6 million, Tanzania 66.9 million, Libya 65 million, Nigeria 64.7 million and Thailand 52.9 million. Yet it is nearly impossible to get anything useful out of these counts. For starters, they were done in different years by different researchers.

In fact, the entire field of spermology is fraught with conflicts and confusion. "What's a normal sperm count?" asked Dr. Stuart Howards, a professor of urology and physiology at the University of Virginia Health Science Center. "What's the variability? No one knows."

Until now, researchers were focusing not on what were average sperm counts but on how many sperm a man needed to be fertile. And the answer was, "not many."

A man with 15 million sperm per milliliter of semen is fully fertile, said Dr. Ronald Swerdloff of Harbor-U.C.L.A. Medical Center in Los Angeles. Fertility decreases as the sperm count drops below 15 million but men



Woody Allen, third from the left, as a sperm in a scene from his film, "Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Sex (But Were Afraid to Ask)." Movie Still Archives

with as few as one million sperm have fathered children without high-tech methods like in vitro fertilization.

And there is no evidence that men with more than 15 million sperm per milliliter of semen are more fertile, Dr. Swerdloff said. As much as men might like to brag about their sperm counts, more sperm do not make a man more virile.

Sperm are made at a constant rate in a man's testicles and stored in a little pocket until ejaculation. The longer it has been since a man ejaculated, the more sperm build up, ready to be released. Dr. Richard Sherins, the director of andrology research at the Genetics and IVF Institute in Fairfax, Va., said he has seen men's sperm counts go from 10 million to 100 million sperm per milliliter of semen "based on a few weeks of abstinence." Sperm counts can double, triple, even quadruple within a day or two of abstinence, Dr. Sherins said. "The longer you abstain, the more you build up," he added. The sperm are eventually released in a nocturnal emission. "Any married woman is sensitive to the fact that if she doesn't have sex with her husband, he will have a nocturnal emission," he said.

But, Dr. Sherins said, a report at a meeting of andrologists last week finally gave the lie to the widespread belief that jockey shorts can depress a man's sperm count. Men in a study wore very tight nylon athletic supporters for days on end, but their sperm counts were unaltered. It takes a very high temperature, like a fever of 104 degrees or frequent steam baths or saunas, to lower sperm counts temporarily, he said. A Turkish steam jacket, a kind of individual steam bath, would take a man's sperm count down to zero, he added.

Andrologists also agree that cigarette smoking, the use of recreational drugs and daily drinking of alcoholic beverages can push down a man's sperm count. Although many men believe that stress depresses sperm counts, day-to-day emotional turmoil seems to have no effect on their sperm. Stress may lower sperm counts, Dr. Sherins said, but it takes "profound stress — and I underline profound."

Men who want to increase their counts will come up against a biological wall. "The amount of sperm that a man makes is controlled biologically for him," Dr. Sherins said. And it now appears that different ethnic groups may have different sperm counts. For example, new studies by Dr. Swerdloff indicate that Chinese men may have naturally lower sperm counts than white or Hispanic men. Dr. Swerdloff and Dr. Larry Johnson of Texas A & M University have been collecting the testicles of young men of Chinese, white and Hispanic ancestry who died suddenly. The investigators dissect the testicles and determine how many sperm they contain. The Chinese men, they discovered, have smaller testicles and fewer sperm. They are just beginning to test black men.

So could the racial mixes of Los Angeles and New York be the reason that Los Angeles men had such a comparatively paltry number of sperm?

"I don't know," Dr. Swerdloff said. "I'd have to look at the ethnic breakdown" in the two cities, he said. But, he added, "My guess is that it is not going to be the full explanation."

If animals are any indicator, it may be very difficult to find the true explanation. Dr. Lee Silver, a mouse geneticist at

Princeton University, is looking for a mouse gene that controls sperm counts, and hoping from there to find a similar gene in men. But his data are puzzling.

### A Mouse or a Man

Dr. Silver looked at two genetically inbred strains of mice. The mice within one strain were essentially identical twins — they had identical genes. And they were all 11 weeks old, all in identical environments and all celibate.

But even with identical conditions there was a large variation of sperm counts within each strain. One strain of mouse had sperm counts ranging from 5.6 million to 11.2 million, an almost twofold difference. The other strain had counts ranging from 16,800,000 to 22,400,000.

But enough about mice. How about men? New information suggests, Dr. Sherins said, that the amount of sperm produced is related to the size of the testicles, and that both are genetically determined. It's a matter of big testicles versus little testicles. "That's what it's all about," he said.

### Citizens, Start Your Pumps

## How America Perpetuates Its Gas Crisis

By MATTHEW L. WALD

**D**RIVING may be a little more expensive these days, but the main reason is not the price of gasoline. It's because of changes in the drivers and their cars.

Or rather, it is the changes in their vehicles, because what pulls up to the pump these days is often not a car. This year an estimated 4 in 10 new "light duty vehicles" sold will be vans, sport utility vehicles or pickup trucks. This is up from 1 in 10 in 1973, when the Arab oil embargo caused the first gas crisis, in an era when pickup trucks "actually saw hay, instead of worsted

suits," as Daniel F. Becker, a spokesman for the Sierra Club, put it.

And car or not, they all cover more miles. In 1973 the vehicles traveled 5,350 miles per person; by 1994 they did 7,900, according to Dr. Lee Schipper, an energy researcher at Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory in Berkeley, Calif., who is currently on leave at the International Energy Agency in Paris.

### Feed Me, Seymour

Working with data from the Transportation and Energy Departments, and Lawrence, Mr. Schipper calculated that the actual miles per gallon were 13.11 in 1973. The rate rose to 20.22 in 1985, under pressure from rising prices and the Federal law, the Corpo-

rate Average Fuel Economy standard. But by 1994, with the changing mix of vehicles, it dropped to 18.31 — drivers were trading in their early 1980's compacts for mid-1990's behemoths. And where they used to drive 59 miles an hour, a hair above the speed limit, at 69 miles an hour, a hair above the new limit on some roads, those miles per gallon will continue to decline.

For a long time the two other important trends tended to cancel each other out: Fuel economy rose in the early 1980's, canceling out the increase in prices. Gasoline prices fell in the late 1990's, more than canceling out the decline in fuel economy. As a result, the cost of driving a mile peaked in 1979, at 51 percent higher than it was in 1973, but then it started to fall. By 1994, it was one third less

than it was in 1973.

Now, fuel economy is falling and the price per gallon increasing, so the cost per mile is climbing steeply, although it is no way near what the cost per mile was in 1973, Mr. Schipper said. "In terms of the cost curve, we're back to 1987," he said, referring to the recent fuel price increases. "And the world wasn't falling apart when we were paying that much."

### Careful What You Ask For

People today work and shop farther from home, and have grown used to static gas prices even as the cost of everything else has risen. The price of a kilowatt-hour of electricity,

which is the second most common form of energy purchased by consumers, has risen 105 percent since 1978; gas is up 87 percent. But gas prices are always visible at the pump. How many people figure their energy costs by the kilowatt-hour?

Taking inflation into account, the price of gasoline is startlingly low; gas in 1995 was at its lowest in 77 years, said the American Petroleum Institute, a trade association.

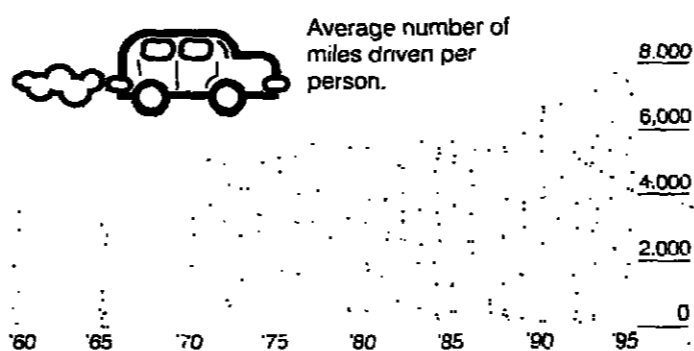
Americans reacted to that price predictably. They bought 7.79 million barrels of gasoline a day last year, up from 6.54 million in 1974.

As far as the pinch created by driving big cars for more miles and at higher speeds, Mr. Schipper said, "My sense is, we asked for this."

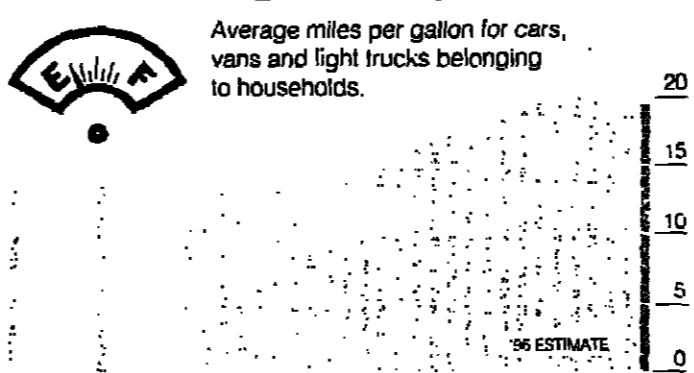


In Racine, Wis., a driver fills the tank of a limousine that gets 14 miles to the gallon.

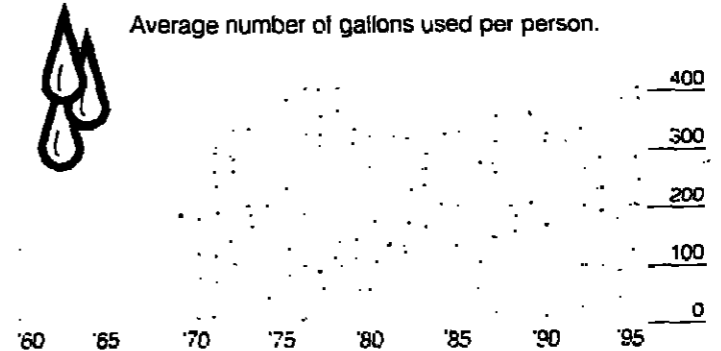
### People Are Driving More



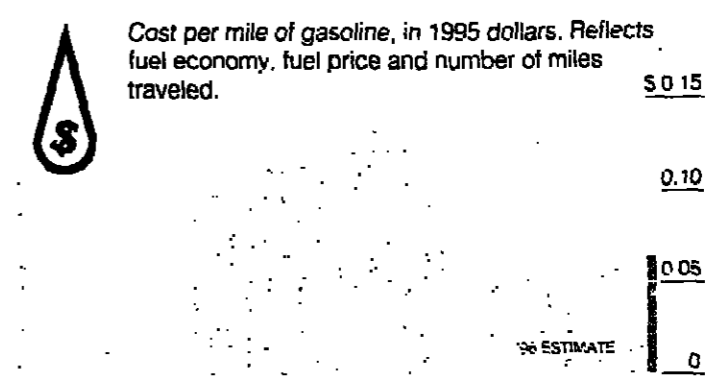
### And Gas Mileage Is Going Down



### People Are Using More Gas



### But the Cost Is About the Same



Source: Lee Schipper, Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory; Dept. of Energy, Dept. of Transportation

The New York Times



# Age-Bashing and Dole

Continued From Page 1

a forward-moving person."

In contrast with Mr. Dole, Mr. Reagan was for the most part wildly successful in defusing the age issue. For most of his tenure, Mr. Reagan played the sunny patriarch and even managed to attract college students to the Republican Party. He had an ageless quality, which his advisers enhanced with photo opportunities of him clearing brush and chopping wood at his ranch.

With a well-timed comment, Mr. Reagan put the age matter to rest in a 1984 debate with Walter F. Mondale, the Democratic nominee: "I will not make age an issue of this campaign. I am not going to exploit for political purposes my opponent's youth and inexperience."

Mr. Dole offers his own version of that line, but his delivery is not as deft. He promises not to make age an issue, even though, he says, his cholesterol count and blood pressure are lower than the President's.

At virtually every public appearance, he also jests self-deprecatingly about his plan to pick Senator Strom Thurmond as his running mate because the 83-year-old would bring generational balance to the ticket.

Efforts to appear youthful fall flat, as when Mr. Dole posed for USA Today on his treadmill last July, wearing unlikely fitness gear: a dress shirt and what could have passed for boxers. And for all of his efforts to portray himself as more seasoned than Mr. Clinton — calling himself "the comeback adult" in contrast to "the comeback kid" — the dour Mr. Dole has had difficulty turning age to his advantage.

Last month he remarked that "if something happened along the route and you had to leave your children with Bob Dole or Bill Clinton, I think you'd probably leave your children with Bob Dole." But when The Washington Post offered that choice in a survey, 52 percent of the respondents chose Mr. Clinton as the baby sitter; 27 percent Mr. Dole.

The concerns about Mr. Dole's age are shared by Democrats and Republicans, and among adults of all ages. In a New York Times/CBS News Poll last month, 34 percent of Americans said Mr. Dole's age would be an obstacle to his serving as President; 58 percent said it did

## Some older voters balk at Dole's stand on Medicare.

not matter, and 7 percent said it would help him. Many people think Mr. Dole would be too old to serve a second term and, as a result, are placing great emphasis on his search for a running mate.

Without prompting in interviews, voters of all ages often cite Mr. Dole's age as a problem. Though some older voters say his experience is a big advantage, many do not sound put off by efforts to portray Mr. Dole as a grumpy old man. "He's too old and he isn't dynamic," said Gene McEnecroe, 74, a Republican in Ontario, Calif. "I think he just can't win."

There are particular reasons why some older voters have not warmed to the notion of a Dole Presidency. Identifying with Mr. Dole too much for the candidate's comfort, some say that at their age they could not imagine being up to the demands of the Oval Office. Others, even if they resent the age-based blasts against Mr. Dole, are not willing to defend him because they object to his support for Republican plans to curb the growth of Medicare, the Federal health insurance program for older Americans.

Democrats say the age issue for them is like the character issue that Mr. Dole has against Mr. Clinton. In the same way that Mr. Dole does not have to bring up Jennifer Flowers and questions of Mr. Clinton's marital fidelity, Mr. Clinton does not have to remind people that Mr. Dole would be 77 at the end of a four-year term. All the while, his aides have been placing Mr. Clinton in youthful contexts: announcing a teen smoking initiative and efforts to protect young people from drugs, and making appearances at college graduations.

George Stephanopoulos, now 35 — one of those senior Clinton advisers derided as inexperienced whelps when Mr. Clinton first came to Washington (proof that the age issue cuts both ways) — insists that "the issue isn't age; it's ideas." Then, preferring to let the commercials and coded messages speak for themselves, he added, "I've said absolutely all I'm going to say on the subject."

Meanwhile, Nelson Warfield, Mr. Dole's spokesman, warns that the Clinton campaign had "better be careful on age — you count age in years, but also in judgement and wisdom."

In an odd twist, Mr. Dole may confront the issue head-on this week. As majority leader, he said he would bring to the Senate floor consideration of a bill that would allow state and local governments to impose mandatory retirement on firefighters and police officers on the ground that the physical demands of those jobs are especially taxing. Mr. Dole has not stated his position.

## Hail to the Old Man

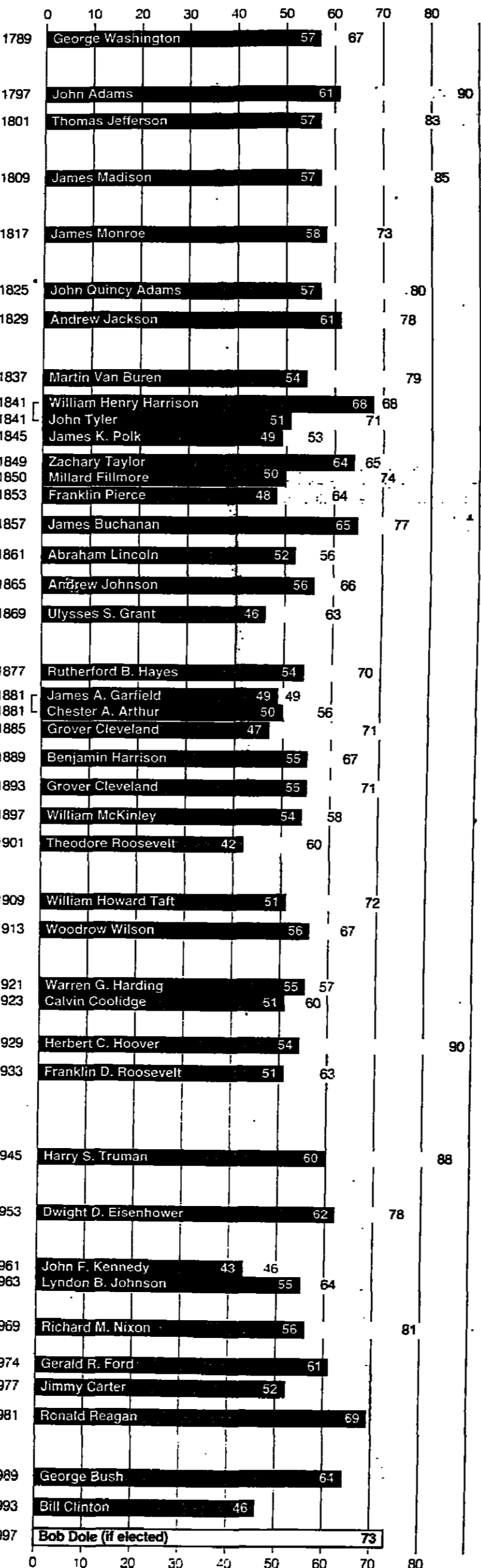
When the Founding Fathers decided that a person should be at least 35 years old to be President of the United States, the life expectancy for a white male child at birth was slightly less than 35 years. Did they intend that the Chief Executive be at death's door before taking office? No, 18th century expectations for a typical adult's life span were not far from our own. Back then, if a man made it to his 50th birthday, he could expect to live another 21 years. But high infant and child mortality rates reduced the likelihood that a boy born in 1789 would live 57 years, which was George Washington's age at the time of his inauguration.

It was not until Theodore Roosevelt — the youngest President ever — took office after McKinley's death that the Commander in Chief's age fell below the life expectancy for white males. At about this same time, the average life span was increasing sharply. At the turn of the century, expansions in public health programs lowered infant mortality, and advances in medicine, like the sterilization of surgical equipment, kept adults alive longer. Years were added to the average life expectancy at the same strong rate until the 1950's, when increases leveled off to more modest improvements.

Even today, infant mortality and early illnesses still leave their mark on the life expectancy rate. So the life expectancy at birth in 1995 for a white male was 73.7 years, but if a white male reached age 72 (Bob Dole's age), he could expect to live another 11.3 years.

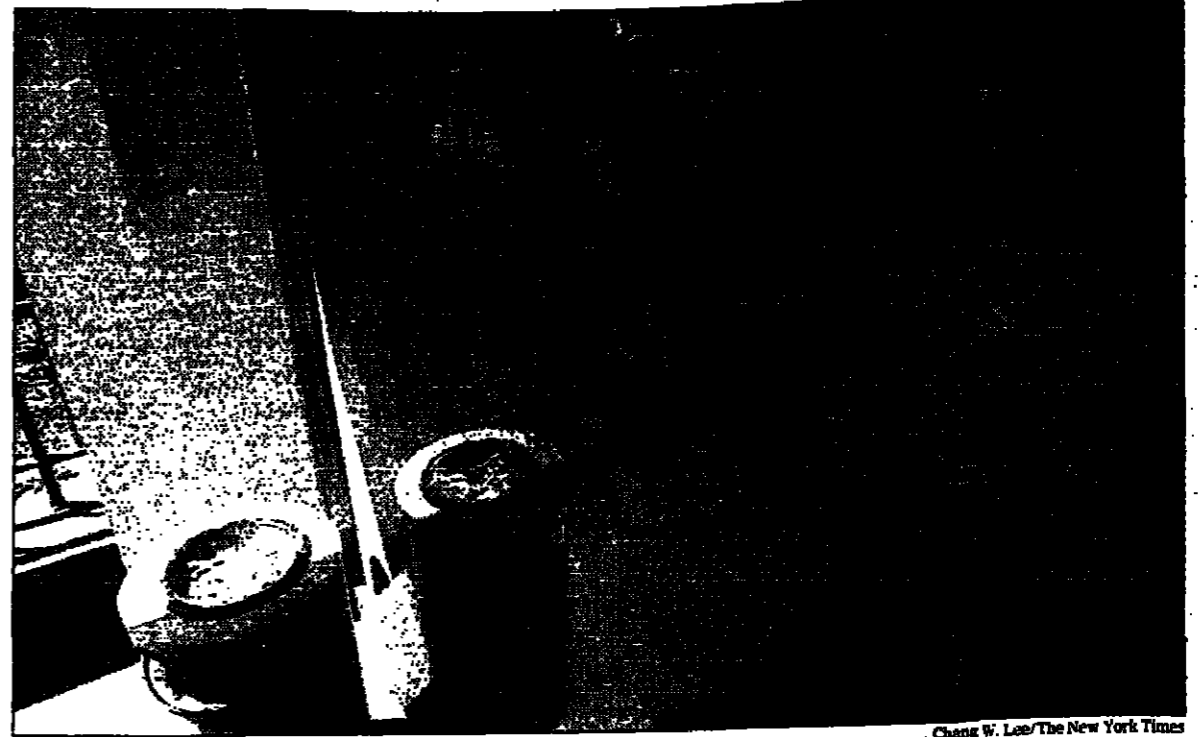
### Key to Chart Below

- President's age upon taking office
- President's age at death
- Life expectancy for white males born that year



Before 1900, states kept only fragmentary records on births and deaths. The earliest figures here, 1789, was from a study of 82 communities in Massachusetts and New Hampshire, Massachusetts, with the most complete state records, was also the source for the other available years: 1850, 1855, 1878-82, 1890 and 1893-97 data. Sources: Dictionary of American Biography, Charles Scribner's Sons, 1978; Historical Statistics, Colonial Times to 1957, Census Bureau; National Center for Health Statistics (actual 1971-1992, estimate for 1995)

The New York Times



Cheng W. Lee/The New York Times

# How Much Smoking Costs

Continued From Page 1

earnings. Later, Mr. Viscusi figured health and insurance costs attributable to secondhand smoke, cautioning that his estimate of 25 cents a pack was drawn from highly uncertain data. At the same time, smokers saved taxpayers nursing-home care (23 cents a pack) and pension and Social Security costs (\$1.19). The net gain to society: 5 cents for every pack sold. Smokers also contributed 53 cents a pack in excise taxes, 29 cents of that going to the states.

The big savings come from retirement benefits, especially since smoking-related disease usually kicks in as one's working years end. Mr. Viscusi calculates total yearly pension savings nearing \$30 billion — most of which is realized not by the states but by private pension plans and the Social Security system. (Since about 30 percent of Medicare dollars go to nursing home care, the states save money there.) And if no one smoked? "Social Security would go bankrupt," he said. "We'd all have to work to age 80."

The Manning and Viscusi studies have their critics, including the plaintiffs. They prefer the estimates of smoking-related medical costs issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, which are several times higher than the Manning-Viscusi estimates. Still other research has found that smokers have lower lifetime medical costs than nonsmokers.

The whole discussion disturbs many people. Jeffrey Harris, an M.I.T. economist who contends that most economists underestimate smokers' medical costs, said the real danger is to suggest that government weigh the savings from early deaths in making public policy decisions. Dr. Harris, who is also a physician, said an analysis like Mr. Viscusi's "is not including a key benefit to our society: We value life."

The plaintiffs' lawyers working for the states say tobacco companies are exactly the last people who should share in any death benefit. P. Tim Howard, retained by Florida's Attorney General, said: "I don't know that a court is going to say, 'Wow, you need an offset because you killed people.'"

To economists, though, the states' claims of losses

fail to make sense without offsets. As Jane Gravelle and Dennis Zimmerman, economists at the Congressional Research Service, wrote in an article in the Washington Post: "The alternative to death from a smoking-related illness is not immortality and perfect health — it is later death, and perhaps from a more costly illness."

## Addicted to Taxes

So far, the defendants are not pushing the argument. "We didn't create this analysis, and we didn't go to court to assert it," said Murray R. Garnick, a Washington lawyer representing Philip Morris in several states, including Mississippi, where the issue has come up in court. There, Mr. Garnick explained, the state had asked the court to prohibit requests by the tobacco companies for documents relating to the state's net Medicaid expenditures for smokers.

Both sides are collecting numbers on crop subsidies, employment and other measures of tobacco's economic effects, though the courts would not likely go so far afield. But they may look at income from excise taxes, which Mr. Huber of the Manhattan Institute says points up "the biggest paradox of all."

"If the state thought it was being injured by tobacco, it could have banned tobacco," he said. "The state can prohibit four-wheel vehicles, hang-gliding, all sorts of things." But he continued, "you might say the state is addicted to tobacco revenues."

Legal scholars are loath to see the courts used as arbiters in such tormented political and economic debates. "To leave it to the fanatically uncertain and chaotic process of litigation is a very, very bad way to make public policy," said Jeffrey O'Connell, a law professor at the University of Virginia.

But lawsuits make sense as a means of forcing a better solution, says Mr. O'Connell. He says workers compensation-like legislation could protect tobacco companies from liability suits in return for payments into a fund for victims. "So maybe we can use the threat of litigation to accomplish something like this," he said, "instead of having these voraciously competitive people pummel each other, and us in the process."

# ANCIENT SEALS - A GIFT FOR TODAY

The silver-plated replicas by ARYE AMYR - elegant, handmade pieces to display and enjoy - let you hold history in your hands. Born in Vienna, trained in Israel, Arye Amyr presents works inspired by archaeological finds and ancient Judaica:



**SILVER SHEKEL** of Israel, issued 66-70 C.E., decorated with 3 pomegranates and the inscription "JERUSALEM THE HOLY"



**SILVER DINAR**, minted during Bar Kochba war 135 C.E., with the inscription "FREEDOM FOR JERUSALEM"



**ANCIENT SEAL** discovered at Megiddo, decorated with LION OF JUDAH, issued during 8th century B.C.E.



**MATTITYAHU ANTIGONUS** coin, showing the MENORA for the first time in history. Dated 40 B.C.E.



The earliest Hebrew coin struck in JUDEA, inscribed "YHD" in Aramaic. First half of the 4th century B.C.E.

Each coin is mounted on a beautiful dark stained wood base, 10x10 cm. Each coin is signed, with Certificate of Origin attached. Total height approx. 30 mm., weight approx. 400 g. All pieces are delivered in a silver-colored gift box.

Suggested retail price: NIS 269. JP introductory price: NIS 199, incl. door-to-door delivery, where available.



The Jerusalem Post, POB 81, Jerusalem 91000. Tel. 02-241282, Fax 02-241212

Please send me:  SHEKEL  DINAR  LION SEAL  MENORA  JUDEAN COIN

Enclosed is my check payable to The Jerusalem Post for NIS 199 per item, or credit card details:

Visa  Isracard  Dinars  
CC No. \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Tel. (day) \_\_\_\_\_ ID No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Handwritten text: "בנימין נתן"



ECONOMY

# Heinz Brings Up a New Baby But Stays on the Sidelines

By CAROL MARIE CROPPER

In the 1987 movie "Baby Boom," Diane Keaton played a big-city management consultant who moved to small-town Vermont, cooked up homemade baby food, then fended off corporate America's attempt to take over her thriving enterprise.

In real life, things don't always work that way. Witness Ron and Arnie Koss, 45-year-old twin brothers who moved from New York State to Vermont and developed an organic baby food wholesome enough for their own children. Despite the upstart brand's growing sales, the brothers lost control of their baby to venture capitalists and a hotshot professional manager who they say didn't even return their phone calls.

Then, this March, H. J. Heinz, the Pittsburgh food-processing giant, bought the company, Earth's Best, for about \$30 million. While it promises to stick to the founders' principle of purity, it made no written guarantees when the deal was done. What is more, Heinz is considering a move to capitalize on the Earth's Best reputation for quality by attaching its new company's name to everything from pacifiers to soups for grown-ups. And all this from a company whose main brand of baby food has been knocked by one influential consumer group as being "nutritionally inferior."

The brothers wish they had been able to hold onto their company. Still, they realize that Heinz can do big things for the brand name they nursed for so long. "My brother and I got into this because we wanted to see this food available to children," Ron Koss said.

The Kosses' inability to hold onto their company shows how easy it is for starry-eyed idealists to get waylaid by the earthy realities of American capitalism. All too frequently, beginning entrepreneurs learn an old truth the hard way: No matter how brilliant your concept, it probably won't succeed without marketing know-how and plenty of capital to get you through the bumpy ride of the early years. And the people with the money and the expertise they need — venture capitalists and big corporations — are forever on the prowl to make cheap acquisitions of start-up companies with first-rate products and inexperienced managers.

Ron and Arnie Koss certainly fit the mold of budding entrepreneurs with no money, a hot idea and only the vaguest notion of how to turn it into a marketable product. They got their brainstorm in the mid-1970's while working as clerks in natural-food stores in upstate New York. They noticed that in the cornucopia of health merchandise for adults there was a sparsely stocked organic anything for babies.

It wasn't just that they had found an opening for a niche product that big companies had overlooked. Both men felt drawn to the all-natural precepts of the environmental movement. Ron Koss, a vegetarian, remembers reading Rachel Carson's book, "Silent Spring," which describes the dangers of pesticides to animals, and "imagining that children would be especially sensi-

tive to pesticides, just as the eggs of bald eagles were."

"I am an environmentalist," he added. "I started Earth's Best because I have a connection to this planet, and I have a love of nature."

Even so, years passed before the brothers acted on their inspiration. Ron took a job managing a Ronald McDonald house for seriously ill children and their parents in Burlington, Vt. Arnie, who was more entrepreneurial, started a tiny company in the same town that produced handmade brooms in the style of old-time Shaker communities.

In 1984, the time seemed right to revive their long-dormant dream. Ron Koss's first son, Gabriel, had been born the previous year, giving the twins their first taste-tester. And, unbelievable to them, a decade after they began to talk about it, nobody else had yet hit hard on the notion of selling organic food to parents.

First, they had to find some start-up capital. Arnie sold his business, but that wasn't nearly enough. They hit pay dirt with Ray Pecor, a local businessman who now owns the minor league Vermont Expos baseball

## Heinz tries an organic baby food.

team. Mr. Pecor took an immediate liking to Arnie and signed a bank loan for \$25,000. "I was impressed with his enthusiasm and his work ethic," Mr. Pecor says of the curly haired man who appeared in his office in blue jeans. "This was a love affair with a product for him, rather than a business venture."

That initial cash infusion enabled the Kosses to do some nutritional and product research. But it wasn't enough to lease a factory, buy equipment, purchase organic fruits and vegetables and hire workers. So off they went, knocking on doors of banks and private investors. "We looked like a couple of curly haired flakes" and endured lots of rejections, Arnie Koss said. "But we didn't go away."

They managed to raise \$1.3 million, enough to get them started. In December 1987, in a small concrete building on Pond Lane in Middlebury, Vt., with a view of the Green Mountains, they watched the first jars of Earth's Best bump off the production line.

"They were filled with organic apple puree," Arnie Koss recalled proudly.

That moment of glory was short-lived. Like millions of entrepreneurs before them, the Koss brothers soon discovered an unforgiving reality of the marketplace: making a great product is no guarantee that it sold at a profit.

Within months, Earth's Best was out of money. The Kosses were forced to lay off the 60 workers they had just hired and began a desperate search for more financing. What went wrong? "Baby food is capital-intensive," Arnie Koss explained. Perishable ingredients like blueberries and plums must be bought a year in advance,

when they are in season, then frozen. Competition for grocery shelf space is so fierce that some stores charge for it. "Large amounts of money disappear quickly," Mr. Koss said.

The two partners finally raised an additional \$300,000 but went through it quickly as they rehired laid-off workers, bought produce, built inventory and marketed their goods. But sales were zooming, from about \$1.5 million in 1988 to about \$3.5 million in 1989.

Finally, in late 1989, they made the fateful decision to seek money from venture-capital firms. These firms specialize in buying equity interests in promising but troubled companies, turning them around and selling them at a big profit. The brothers got a huge infusion of cash — more than \$8 million — but their success was bittersweet. The venture-capital industry is notorious for negotiating tough terms, and many entrepreneurs put off seeking their help as long as possible. But the Kosses were desperate, and in the end they made a huge sacrifice: to save Earth's Best, they gave up a controlling interest in it.

"My No. 1 priority was to protect the company and the employees of the company and not my own position," Arnie Koss said. "Ron and I knew before we even raised a penny that we were getting into something that was so big that loss of control was a very high probability."

The new majority stockholders included firms run by Gregory Peters, general partner of North Atlantic Venture Funds and the Venture Capital Fund, both of Burlington, and four other venture capital firms around the Northeast. And the Koss brothers were quick to realize that the price of their financial deliverance was more than just losing control. They were turning over a product born of idealism to the number crunchers who viewed it as a commodity, not a way to help build a better world.

"At some level they believed in the product in terms of its value to society," Arnie Koss said of his new partners. But, he added, "They were making an investment because they thought there was a huge windfall to be made."

Mr. Peters said the venture capitalists were attracted to Earth's Best in part because of its product. "We saw a company committed to providing high-quality, healthy foods to infants," he said. He declined to comment on whether the venture capitalists were too obsessed with the bottom line.

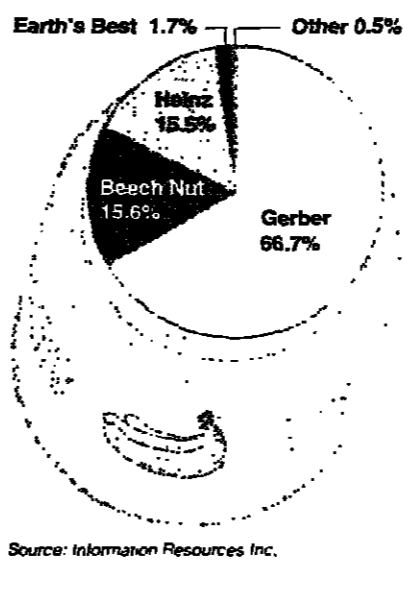
One of the first things the new owners demanded was that Arnie Koss step down as president of the money-losing company. "It became a condition of the investment," Arnie Koss said. "They just decided they wanted their own guy there." Both brothers stayed on until mid-1990 as executive vice presidents, then left for good.

"Those guys didn't have a clue who Ron and I were and what we were capable of," Arnie Koss said. "Ron and I weren't cut out of the M.B.A. mold."

An entrepreneur's loss of control over the company he or she created is a common tale in American capitalism. Bob Iverson, the founder of Kiwi International Airlines, was ousted as chief executive last year. In 1993,

## Spoon Food

Shares of the almost \$900 million baby food market, for the 52 weeks ended March 24. Figures do not include sales at health-food stores, an area where Earth's Best dominates.



Kendall Square Research, a Boston maker of supercomputers, dismissed its founder, Henry Burkhart 3d, and in the previous year the Compaq Computer Corporation eased out its founder, Joseph R. Canon.

Some of the departing founders go down fighting and remain bitter; others prefer dignified exits. Usually, though, the business world concludes that the entrepreneurs have outlived their usefulness. In this case, even the Kosses' original backer, Mr. Pecor, approved the venture capitalists' decision. Arnie Koss "didn't have the background to manage a millions-of-dollars-a-year business," he said. "The next step needed professional management."

Earth's Best went through two professional managers in two years, the first replacing Arnie and the second coming on board a few months after Arnie left. But the company was still losing money. Then, in November 1991, it hired Jay G. Shoemaker, who had left Whitman's Chocolates as president after its sales were disappointing and had worked as a manager at General Mills Inc. Mr. Shoemaker, who received an M.B.A. degree at Harvard, makes no pretense that organic baby food has a special place in his heart. For him, business is all about selling; what he sells is secondary. "I don't really come in and say, 'I really love this product so I'm going to buy the business.' It has more to do with strategic opportunity."

Arnie Koss has a low opinion of businessmen with such theories. "They just had one thing on their mind, and that was how to make the most money in the shortest amount of time," he said.

In the fiscal year of Mr. Shoemaker's arrival, Earth's Best had revenue of \$8 million — and losses of \$7 million. Despite that huge deficit, there was a bright side: The company had survived four years in a competitive market that had mashed other organic baby foods made by later entries into the field. Mr. Shoemaker diagnosed

Earth's Best's problem as poor management and figured he was just the man to turn it around. "Anytime you can see a business that is succeeding despite itself, then obviously you can come in there and clean up the problems," he said. "Then you're removing the impediments to real growth and to real earnings."

In January 1992, Mr. Shoemaker thought nothing of moving the company's headquarters from Middlebury, where it all started, to Boulder, Colo. In May, he shut down the Middlebury factory and laid off about 50 workers, farming out production to a California company. Then he turned to the investment arm of SunAmerica Inc., the large insurance and investment company based in Los Angeles, for a \$5 million loan.

The next year, SunAmerica invested another \$1.8 million and eventually became the company's largest stockholder, followed by Orion Ventures, an Oregon venture capital firm. Together, they held majority control, with more than 200 other shareholders bringing up the rear. By then, the twins held only warrants to purchase stock that would in the end entitle them to only eight-tenths of 1 percent of the company they founded.

Slowly but surely, Earth's Best pulled out of the doldrums. With so much money and management expertise behind it, it approached the black for the first time in the 1995 fiscal year, earning \$200,000 before interest payments on \$2.8 million in sales. (It lost \$800,000 after interest was deducted.)

Enter H. J. Heinz. The \$8 billion food behemoth had been eyeing Earth's Best since 1988. In 1991, it toyed with the notion of making a bid to acquire it. But like many big corporations, it wanted to wait for the small company to prove it was viable before striking.

"The reason we walked away from it back then is because we thought it could be a fad," said Al Banisch, senior product manager for infant feeding at Heinz U.S.A. Also, Heinz wasn't sure that it should be moving into the organic-food business, which by definition requires a steady supply of organic produce. In its early years, Earth's Best was plagued with shortages that resulted in the sudden disappearance and then re-appearance of varieties from store shelves — a forgivable lapse for a small company but not for a household name like Heinz.

Still, with sales of organic foods growing more than 20 percent a year recently, other big companies had already embraced health food. In 1989, the J. M. Smucker Company acquired Santa Cruz Natural (now Santa Cruz Organic), a maker of organic fruit juices. The next year, Welch Foods Inc. bought a controlling interest in Cascadian Farms, which produces organic foods in jars and frozen form.

Last year, Heinz had a change of heart. It began in July when a senior executive, Brian Ruder, was named president of Heinz U.S.A.'s retail division, with responsibilities for both baby food and ketchup. Mr. Ruder had seen organic baby food in Europe while serving as a vice president in charge of developing Heinz's worldwide baby-food business. And his own brother, who lived in Boston, fed his infant son Earth's Best instead of Heinz.

Within two weeks of his promotion, Mr. Ruder called Mr. Shoemaker. Less than eight months later, the two had worked out a deal for the sale of the company for around \$30 million. Earth's Best's board, controlled by venture capitalists, quickly approved the transaction.

The Koss brothers, their stake now reduced to less than 1 percent, got less than \$300,000.

Arnie Koss doesn't try to hide his disappointment about the way the agreement was consummated. "Of course I would have preferred that Earth's Best had remained independent," he said. "My opinion was not sought. I did call Jay Shoemaker and he did not return my call." Mr. Shoemaker, who was chief executive of Earth's Best at the time, says he doesn't recall getting the call.

Mr. Ruder, the Heinz executive now in charge of Earth's Best, is already thinking about ways to exploit its name. He says he hopes to expand the Earth's Best line to everything from adult foods like soups and sauces to, perhaps, accessories like pacifiers and baby bottles — all "made in an environmentally sensitive way."

"The Earth's Best trademark has become a Good Housekeeping seal of approval for organics," he said enthusiastically. "We think there's very strong brand equity and it's extendable to other categories."

But is there a danger that Heinz, in attaching the name to new products, will water down the brand's appeal? After all, one reason for the success of Earth's Best was the homey image of two brothers stewing apples in Ron Koss's kitchen and taste-testing them on his six-month-old. The consuming public's perception of such dedication to quality contrasts sharply with its suspiciousness toward an industry with a checkered history of mass-producing baby food.

### WORLD STOCK MARKETS

PERFORMANCE IN U.S. DOLLARS				IN LOCAL CURR.				
Country	Index	Week % Chg.	Week Rank	YTD % Chg.	YTD Rank	Dividend Yield	YTD % Chg.	
Australia	210.11	-0.4	9	10.6	5	3.93	175.38	3.2
Austria	185.47	-1.6	19	6.3	15	1.91	147.19	13.4
Belgium	207.35	-0.5	10	-0.9	25	4.11	160.51	5.7
Brazil	157.23	0.1	7	14.0	3	1.90	287.16	16.4
Britain	229.16	-2.5	23	-0.6	24	4.07	226.14	2.7
Canada	161.65	-0.7	13	8.9	9	2.37	159.52	8.8
Denmark	296.24	0.8	3	2.6	20	1.90	237.30	9.0
Finland	187.72	2.9	1	0.3	23	2.64	189.14	10.9
France	196.25	-1.0	17	9.4	7	3.01	158.95	15.5
Germany	164.47	-2.8	24	0.5	22	1.91	130.59	7.2
Hong Kong	422.36	0.2	6	8.9	8	3.37	419.48	9.0
Ireland	273.93	-0.7	11	7.2	12	3.35	248.11	10.5
Italy	83.20	-0.8	14	12.9	4	2.18	97.16	11.3
Japan	161.04	-1.1	18	3.9	18	0.72	106.61	5.5
Malaysia	579.17	0.3	5	19.4	1	1.55	556.31	17.3
Mexico	1,233.63	-3.4	26	19.1	2	1.44	10,062.89	15.6
Netherlands	288.72	0.4	4	5.9	16	3.14	224.78	12.7
New Zealand	82.43	-0.0	8	3.5	19	4.29	63.75	-1.5
Norway	249.04	-2.1	21	7.7	11	2.34	221.89	11.9
Singapore	435.82	-0.9	15	7.0	13	1.35	281.72	6.1
South Africa	362.17	-1.0	16	6.0	26	2.02	347.71	13.2
Spain	175.85	-2.7	22	6.5	14	3.27	169.91	11.9
Sweden	342.02	-0.7	12	9.6	6	2.31	345.84	12.9
Switzerland	237.91	-2.8	25	0.8	21	1.59	183.33	8.9
Thailand	181.92	2.3	2	8.1	10	1.84	178.38	8.4
United States	262.10	-1.7	20	4.3	17	2.24	262.10	4.3

COMPOSITE INDICES						
Index	Week % Chg.	YTD % Chg.	YTD Rank			
Europe	206.78	-1.8	2.9	3.03	183.33	7.9
Pacific Basin	173.80	-0.9	5.2	1.13	118.05	6.0
Europe/Pacific	187.43	-1.3	4.1	2.01	142.82	6.9
World	210.88	-1.5	4.2	2.11	180.25	8.0

### WORLD INDEX

### NORWAY INDEX

Prepared by Goldman, Sachs & Co. using data derived from the FT Actuaries World Indices, a measure of stock market performance. The FT indices are compiled jointly by The Financial Times Limited, Goldman, Sachs & Co. and NatWest Securities Ltd. in conjunction with the Institute of Actuaries and the Faculty of Actuaries.

Source: Goldman, Sachs & Co. Exchange rates as of Friday's London close. © 1996 The Financial Times Ltd., Goldman, Sachs & Co. and NatWest Securities Ltd.

### CURRENCIES

Exchange rates	Friday	Last Friday	Week % Chg.	Year Ago
Japanese yen to the U.S. dollar	105.15	105.45	-0.28	83.96
German marks to the U.S. dollar	1.5271	1.5285	-0.09	1.3723
Canadian dollars to the U.S. dollar	1.3652	1.3610	+0.31	1.3539
U.S. dollars to the British pound	1.5050	1.5117	-0.44	1.5972

Source: Bloomberg Financial Markets; exchange rates as of Friday's New York close

### April 29-May 3: Bonds Plunge and Stocks Sag as Data Show Economy on the Mend

Sources: Bank Rate Monitor; Bloomberg Financial Markets; The Bond Buyer; Datastream; Goldman, Sachs; IBC's Money Fund Report; Merrill Lynch; Standard & Poor's; Ryan Labs

PRICES	DOMESTIC EQUITIES	DOMESTIC BONDS	AROUND THE WORLD	YIELDS	OTHER INVESTMENTS
<b>Broad market</b> Down 1.81%	S&P 500 index 641.63	<b>Treasuries</b> Down 1.72%	<b>European stocks</b> Down 1.82%	<b>Long bonds</b> 7.11%	<b>Money market funds</b> 4.75%
<b>Blue chips</b> Down 1.62%	Dow 30 industrials 5,478.03	<b>Ryan Labs, Total Return</b> 182.36	FT-Actuaries Europe 206.78	30-year Treasuries Up 32 basis pts.	<b>Taxable average</b> Up 2 basis pts.
<b>Small capitalization</b> Down 0.28%	Russell 2000 index 348.85	<b>Municipals</b> Down 2.39%	<b>Asian stocks</b> Down 0.93%	<b>Short bonds</b> 6.18%	<b>Bank C.D.'s</b> 4.84%
		Bond Buyer index 111.16	FT-Actuaries Pacific Basin 173.80	2-year Treasuries Up 25 basis pts.	1-year small savers Up 1 basis pt.
		<b>Corporates</b> Down 1.70%	<b>Gold</b> Up 0.97%	<b>Municipals</b> 6.19%	<b>Stocks</b> 2.25%
		Merrill Lynch Master index 782.72	New York cash price \$394.10	Bond Buyer index Up 19 basis pts.	S&P 500 dividend yield Up 4 b.p.
			Foreign indexes are shown in dollar terms.	100 basis points = 1 percentage point	



# The New York Times

Founded in 1851

ADOLPH S. OCHS Publisher 1896-1935  
ARTHUR HAYS SULZBERGER, Publisher 1935-1961  
ORVILLE DRYFOOS Publisher 1961-1963  
ARTHUR OCHS SULZBERGER, Publisher 1963-1992

ARTHUR OCHS SULZBERGER JR. Publisher

JOSEPH LELYNELLD, Executive Editor  
GENE ROBERTS, Managing Editor

Assistant Managing Editors:

SOMA GOLDEN BEHR DAVID F. JONES  
GERALD M. BOND CAROLYN LEE  
WARREN HOGE JACK ROSENTHAL  
ALLAN M. SIEGAL

HOWELL RAINES, Editorial Page Editor  
PHILIP M. BOFFEY, Deputy Editorial Page Editor

RUSSELL T. LEWIS, President and General Manager  
JOHN M. O'BRIEN, Executive VP, Deputy Gen. Mgr.  
WILLIAM L. POLLAK, Executive VP, Circulation  
FENELOPE MUSE ABERNATHY, Senior VP,  
Planning and Human Resources  
RICHARD H. GILMAN, Senior VP, Operations  
JANET L. ROBINSON, Senior VP, Advertising  
RAYMOND E. DOUGLAS, VP, Systems and Technology  
DONNA C. MIELE, VP, Human Resources  
CHARLES E. SHELTON, VP, Distribution  
DAVID A. THURM, VP, Production

## Rebuilding Bosnia Cannot Wait

Three and a half years of merciless war have left Bosnia's economy and society shattered. Two-thirds of the country's housing lies damaged or destroyed. Half the prewar hospital beds are gone, along with half the doctors and nurses. Roads and bridges are impassable and some four million hidden mines await potential victims. Gas, electricity and telephone lines are ruptured and three out of four adults have lost their livelihoods.

So far too little has been done to address these crushing problems. The large reconstruction effort promised as part of the Dayton peace agreement has fallen badly behind schedule.

The delay has potentially severe consequences for sustaining peace in Bosnia. Improvements in the lives of ordinary Bosnians are the most effective way to reinforce the Dayton settlement. If the rebuilding of Bosnia's civil society does not begin in earnest immediately, the peace could start to crumble by the time NATO forces depart at the end of this year, creating pressure for the troops to extend their stay. The nearly \$2 billion so far pledged in aid must be put to quick and effective use.

To that end, President Clinton and European leaders should shift their focus from military to civilian aspects of the peace settlement and bring a new sense of urgency to bear on such questions as putting people back to work, assuring free and fair conditions for this summer's elections and making it possible for people to cross ethnic boundaries without fear. They must see to it that the international coordinators of civil reconstruction, chiefly Carl Bildt of Sweden and Robert Frowick of the United States, have the determination and resources they need to get the job done.

The best insurance against renewed warfare in Bosnia would be finding jobs for some 300,000

former soldiers now demobilized. Tens of thousands of women who lost husbands in the war also must find ways to provide for their families. International reconstruction aid should be channeled as quickly as possible into job-creating projects rebuilding housing, roads and bridges.

Meanwhile, Bosnia is preparing for elections. For these to be conducted fairly, giving moderates a chance to displace the extremists responsible for the war, independent candidates will need access to print and broadcast media now dominated by ethnic parties and governments. Mr. Frowick, who has chief responsibility for supervising the elections, has been trying to expand election coverage and set up new broadcast outlets, but his efforts have not yet produced acceptable results.

The Dayton agreement also assures refugees, a large proportion of Bosnia's population, the right to vote. But some European countries warn that those who exercise this right could forfeit their refugee status. Mr. Frowick and Mr. Bildt must make sure this threat is withdrawn.

For civilians to move freely throughout the country, they must get past roadblocks manned by armed ethnic militias and survive attack from hostile mobs uncontrolled by local police. Mr. Bildt's civilian monitors should insist that local police secure safe passage for civilians. NATO forces, which have begun accompanying refugee convoys, should prod local military units to respect Dayton's guarantees of free movement.

There is still time to save the civil side of the peace effort if Mr. Bildt and his team move more swiftly in the next eight months than they have in the last four. The unacceptable price of further delay is likely to be new warfare or the long-term commitment of American and European forces

## Parental Rights and Wrongs

The Christian Coalition and its political allies are campaigning to establish the right to raise one's child free of outside interference. Parents, in their view, can no longer spank a child without being harassed by a government agency, while schools are constantly subjecting children to offensive sexual materials or anti-religious teachings.

Enshrining "parental rights" as a general principle sounds reasonable enough. But the bills being pushed in Congress and in many state legislatures would disrupt school boards and child welfare agencies with lawsuits, undercutting their ability to work out disagreements by consensus and consultation.

"Parental rights" has only recently sprung up as a conservative cause. Senator Charles Grassley, an Iowa Republican, has significant support in Congress for a bill that would outlaw any attempt by Federal, state or local governments to "interfere with or usurp the right of a parent to direct the upbringing of the child" and grant parents the right to press any violation of the act in Federal or state court. More than two dozen state legislatures are considering bills or amendments to their constitutions with similar language.

The Christian Coalition's aim is to use the issue to confront President Clinton in the hope that he will veto something that sounds like a simple matter of traditional values. But the real agenda of many supporters is to block schools from carrying out reasonable sex-education programs and even the teaching of evolution. They also wish to blunt the movement to grant children rights of their own.

There have certainly been cases of callous behavior by school boards and child welfare agencies. Parental rights groups say that some AIDS awareness and sex-education programs offend many parents, and that child welfare agencies have interfered with the right of parents to punish or restrict their children.

But as these same conservatives tirelessly argue on other issues, these disputes are best resolved locally between parents and their school authorities

without government interference. Indeed, school boards are already learning to be more sensitive to parents' complaints. In some cases, they have even allowed parents to withdraw their children from programs that offend them.

Conservative legal theoreticians like Robert Bork and Justice Antonin Scalia of the Supreme Court have long warned against the dangers of establishing vague new classes of rights. Their supporters in Congress and the legislatures, however, seem to agree with that principle only when it serves their political ends.

In this case, the warnings are sound. Establishing parental rights would make it easier for parents to file lawsuits against everything from sex education to the teaching of evolution and certain works of literature by Mark Twain or Shakespeare. It would also invite parents to use the threat of expensive and time-consuming litigation to harass local school boards and authorities into withdrawing controversial courses.

Advocates of the measure argue that it contains language allowing authorities to act in cases of child abuse or neglect. They would be prevented from intervening only in instances of "reasonable corporal discipline." But states generally have laws allowing parents to use corporal punishment in limited instances.

It also seems odd that at a time when House Speaker Newt Gingrich argues that some children are better off in orphanages than in their own dysfunctional families, his ideological allies are pushing measures that could make it harder for government agencies to prevent abuse in families. Civil libertarians argue, for instance, that the bills might even make it easier for parents to ignore child labor laws, curfews and other laws and regulations that, at least in theory, interfere with their rights.

If there are government abuses, they are best debated and exposed at the local level, where common sense has a habit of prevailing. Enshrining a new set of "rights" for parents will only create mischief in service of a shortsighted political agenda.

## Give City Kids a Summer Break

Just about this time, many New Yorkers are beginning to plan their summer getaways. Some will have the luxury of hiding out in the Hamptons while the city steams. Many more will take a precious week or two in the mountains or at the shore, where the air is cool and there are places to get wet, to breathe clean air, to feel the quiet of the country, to hear birdcalls and breaking surf.

Thanks to the Fresh Air Fund, many city kids whose families cannot afford this luxury can get out of the baking city each summer to cool off and just be kids. For Fresh Air Fund children, this time is magic time. Suddenly they are allowed to get wet and dirty, to pick up things from the ground, enjoy nature, wander freely without constant parental supervision, to run and yell.

This will be the 120th summer that the fund has sent city children to the country. Most go to volunteer host families through the Friendly Town program. The children stay with families in 13 states and Canada for at least two weeks. Many form lasting bonds with their host families, returning summer after summer. This year the fund hopes to send about 7,000 children to such families and 2,900 to Fresh Air Fund camps. It costs the fund \$338 to

send a child to a host family and \$932 for a two-week stay at a camp.

In addition, the fund started a Career Awareness Camp last summer that combines traditional camping activities with a curriculum that helps young people plan for their futures.

Last year the fund raised \$4,496,785. This year it hopes to raise \$4,576,441 by September. Donations help pay for staff members in New York City who match children with host families, publicize the program in city neighborhoods and coordinate the activities of volunteer committees in host communities.

The program pays for the children's transportation and all expenses at the fund's camps. Host families receive no pay and are not required to meet any financial tests. Most of these families end up feeling they have received more than they have given.

The Fresh Air Fund is a not-for-profit agency. More than 80 percent of its funding comes from individual contributions. Tax-deductible donations can be sent to the Fresh Air Fund, 1040 Avenue of the Americas, New York, N.Y. 10018. Families wishing to be hosts may call (800) 367-0003.

## Dole Is Right to Seek Reversal of Roe v. Wade

To the Editor:  
Re "On Abortion, Will Dole Respect Rule of Law?" (letter, April 30): Harold R. Tyler Jr. and Robert M. Pennoyer are wrong. Roe v. Wade is bad because it goes beyond any reasonable extension of enumerated powers under the Constitution.

The Court occasionally goes haywire. Think of Dred Scott (no state could abolish slavery); Plessy v. Ferguson (education could be separate and equal); the Child Labor Cases (the states could not legislate to pro-

tect working children). Dred Scott was revised by amendments; Plessy and Child Labor were overruled. Senator Dole seeks overruling Roe, as Abraham Lincoln sought overruling Dred Scott. The constitutional Roe ought to end. The political and legislative issues are different. Roman Catholics, conservative Protestants, Orthodox Jews and Muslims oppose abortion. Senator Dole can be a good Republican and support their views.  
JOHN P. CAMPBELL  
New York, May 1, 1996

To the Editor:  
Judaism endorses the belief that a woman has the right to control her reproductive life. That is why the majority of Jews support President Clinton's veto of an abortion bill that would have curtailed a woman's right to abort a fetus at a time when either it had become nonviable or when pro-ceeding with the pregnancy would have become medically dangerous to the woman. A similar position is shared by millions of Christians.

In light of this, John Cardinal O'Connor's opposition to the President's veto deserves to be balanced by a report on the attitude of those millions more whose faith leads them to conclude that the President's veto was legitimate, legally precedented and morally justifiable. In a year when "abortion politics" may play an unduly prominent role, the American people's beliefs must not be ignored.  
(Rabbi) BALFOUR BRICKNER  
New York, April 27, 1996

## Boston's Big Dig Is Big on Safety

To the Editor:  
"Upheaval and Calm as Big Dig Transforms Boston" (front page, April 28), while a comprehensive story on Boston's Central Artery/Third Harbor Tunnel project, omits how workers' health and safety is being safeguarded on this largest public works project in the nation.

Construction, which employs five million people a year, is among the most hazardous work in this country. Nearly two of five workers are injured annually and nearly 1,000 a year die from accidents on the job. The life span of workers is 10 years less than that of the general population.

Boston's Big Dig is one of the safest heavy construction projects for workers on record. Among its innovations are site-specific safety plans and full-time safety personnel.

The University of Massachusetts and Massachusetts General Hospital are collaborating to examine safety and health interventions on the Big Dig. The project's goals include reducing work-related musculo-skeletal disorders, noise-induced hearing loss and respiratory health effects for dust, diesel and silica.  
The Big Dig is notable for innova-



Rupert Roward

tions in worker health and safety protection that are saving lives, health and money. SUSAN WOSKIE  
SUSAN MOIR

L. CHRISTINE OLIVER, M.D.  
Lowell, Mass., May 2, 1996

The writers are, respectively, associate professor of work environment and director, construction occupational health project, University of Massachusetts; and on the staff of Massachusetts General Hospital.

## Cosmo and Its Cousins Meet Women's Needs

To the Editor:  
Re Maureen Dowd's "Cosmic Girl" (column, April 28): Excuse me, but doesn't Helen Gurley Brown, the editor of Cosmopolitan magazine, deserve praise for being among publishing's most innovative leaders?

Women's magazines are popular. They sell because they are packed with helpful, relevant information about women's lives. For every article like our "Dare to Compare! The Sex Experience Survey," there is a feature like our interview with Leah Rabin on Israel's future. For every feature on how to keep a man, there is one on when to dump him.

I'm not sure why certain women get in a lather over the sexual content of women's magazines. There is an assumption that serious women wouldn't want to waste their time reading about sex. If we're going to do it — and

we are — why shouldn't we have information on how to do it better? Or would Ms. Dowd prefer that we remain as repressed as our mothers?

If one day I have the privilege of editing Cosmopolitan, I won't be listening to those critics who refuse to accept the reality of women's needs.  
BONNIE FULLER  
Editor in Chief, Marie Claire  
New York, April 30, 1996

## Fairness on Gambling

To the Editor:  
Re "Gambling in the Sunlight" (editorial, April 27): Legislation proposed by Representative Frank Wolf to study the gaming-entertainment industry would result in a study that is neither fair nor balanced, since it gives control of the proposed commission to gaming opponents.

Gaming is not right for everyone. All we ask is that Congress write legislation to assure the one million men and women employed by the industry that we will not be run over by zealots on a witch hunt.

Contrary to your editorial, we have always supported an industry study of all forms of gaming.

We also support hearings and would be happy with recommendations made to state and local governments on all related issues. But subpoena power for a commission would be an intrusion into the proprietary information of publicly held companies.  
FRANK J. FARENKOPF JR.  
President and Chief Executive  
American Gaming Association  
Washington, April 30, 1996

To the Editor:  
Helen Gurley Brown deserves more credit than Maureen Dowd gives her (column, April 28). As Ms. Dowd points out, all women's magazines run risqué articles, and Cosmopolitan certainly keeps up. The Cosmo Girl, scantily clad though she may be, is also a self-improver.

I was delighted when Cosmopolitan recently asked me to write two quizzes on word usage: "How Good Is Your Grammar?" and "How Well Do You Use Your Words?" Sample questions: "Which bikini do you think I should bring/take to St. Kitts?" "I tried to flirt, but he seemed disinterested/uninterested." Ms. Brown wants her readers to be smart as well as sexy.  
CAROL WESTON  
New York, April 29, 1996

## Publishing for Less

To the Editor:  
Your April 28 front-page article on self-publishing says that Barbara Saltzman spent \$250,000 publishing her late son's book, as compared with the "huge sums" she would have had to pay a "so-called vanity" publisher.

A vanity publisher would have charged her much less, and if Mrs. Saltzman had put in the same amount of work promoting the book, it would have sold as many copies. Besides, since when is \$250,000 not a huge sum?  
MARTIN KLEINWALD  
President, Vantage Press  
New York, April 29, 1996

## Pataki Had No Power to Remove Prosecutor

To the Editor:  
Re your April 29 news analysis on Gov. George E. Pataki's removal of the Bronx District Attorney, Robert T. Johnson, from the case involving the murder of a New York City police officer: The New York Civil Liberties Union, which has filed suit on behalf of a group of Bronx voters and taxpayers to oppose the removal, finds several aspects of the article misleading.

You represent Mr. Johnson as a lower-level official within the executive branch. Mr. Johnson, like the Governor, is elected. He does not serve at the Governor's pleasure, and state law and the state and Federal Constitutions limit the Governor's authority to remove him from a case or from his office except in the most extraordinary of circumstances. No such circumstances exist in this case.

Contrary to your suggestion, Mr. Pataki's action does raise separation-of-powers concerns. The Governor has argued that Mr. Johnson failed to comply with the new death penalty law by refusing to consider seeking the death penalty. Yet the law does not require district attorneys to consider seeking the death penalty. By attempting to read such a requirement into the law, the Governor is breaching the separation of powers between the executive branch and the Legislature.  
You suggest that in a mid-70's case

the Court of Appeals "raised, in a tantalizing manner, the prospect that the judiciary did not even have the right to scrutinize decisions made by a chief executive that might affect his own branch of government." To the contrary, that court expressly said that "no view is expressed" on this issue.  
NORMAN SIEGEL  
CHRISTOPHER DUNN  
New York, April 30, 1996

The writers are, respectively, executive director and acting legal director, New York Civil Liberties Union.

**NYT**  
**The New York Times Company**  
229 West 43d St., N.Y. 10036-3899  
ARTHUR OCHS SULZBERGER, Chairman  
Chief Executive Officer  
LANCE E. PRIMIS, President  
Chief Operating Officer  
DAVID L. GOBBAM, Senior Vice President  
Deputy Chief Operating Officer  
DIANE E. BAKER, Senior Vice President  
Chief Financial Officer  
KATHARINE P. DARRON, Senior Vice President  
LEONARD E. FURMAN, Senior Vice President  
LAURA J. CORWIN, Secretary  
RICHARD G. THOMAS, Treasurer

## Politics in India Keeps Democracy Alive

To the Editor:  
Re "India's Epic Election" (editorial, April 30):

India has had a thriving democracy since its independence almost half a century ago. Every election has been keenly anticipated, actively participated in and responsibly decided by the largest electorate in the world.

The elections in the past two decades testify to the sagacity of the Indian voter — in spite of a stereotype of being illiterate and ignorant. The fractious nature of India's politics is what keeps democracy vibrant and deep-rooted in the Indian psyche.

It is too often said that every 10th person on earth is eligible to vote in these elections.

What is amazing is that every 16th human being will have made his or her choice by the time that the polling is completed. The level of participation will be a source of envy in developed countries like the United States.  
P. J. NARAYANAN  
Pittsburgh, April 30, 1996

To the Editor:  
Re "India's Epic Election" (editorial, April 30): You imply that capitalism and the creation of wealth is the only way to solve India's problems. I disagree. The Indian state of Kerala has shown that through egalitarian distribution of wealth, even a poor (and stagnant) economy can adequately take care of its citizens.

You imply that if the Indian People's Party were to come to power, it would be a threat to secularism and "free enterprise." In fact, as avowed right-wingers, they may be in the best position to compromise (compare Nixon and China).

As for enterprise, they are dominated by the merchant classes; they are only opposed to the "pillage and rapine," as they might put it, of transnational giants. Surely you can understand this suspicion — India has been colonized and looted for many centuries.  
RAJEEV SRINIVASAN  
Stanford, Calif., April 30, 1996

## Don't Limit Welfare Without Job Investment

To the Editor:  
As co-conveners of a coalition of African-American, Asian-American, Hispanic, Protestant, Roman Catholic, Muslim and Jewish leaders, we applaud Bob Herbert's objections to proposals in the New York State Legislature to set time limits on welfare benefits (column, April 26).

Time limits are intended as a way to move people off welfare and into the work force. But where are the jobs? Since 1990 New York City has lost more than 300,000 jobs. Moreover, the Labor Department says 75 percent of the city's major employers require skills for entry-level positions beyond those afforded by a high school education. Compounding these difficulties is the unavailability of affordable, high-quality child care.

The Legislature and Gov. George E. Pataki should take the steps needed to help individuals and families move into the mainstream of economic life by investing in programs and supports that make self-sufficiency possible.  
NORMAN H. STEIN  
DENNIS M. WALCOTT  
New York, May 1, 1996

The writers are, respectively, New York chapter president, American Jewish Committee, and president of the New York Urban League.



Medicine

Foreign Affairs

THOMAS L. FRIEDMAN

Expiration Date: 12/20/96

SARAJEVO, Bosnia and Herzegovina
When you go to apply for your NATO press pass in Zagreb the first thing you notice is that it comes with one line already filled in—the expiration date: "December 20, 1996."

That is the date President Clinton has set for the withdrawal of U.S. troops from Bosnia. The question I have been posing to a range of people from Zagreb to Sarajevo is: What do you think Bosnia will look like on the day NATO passes expires? The most common answer is: "Anything can still happen"—from a return to fighting to a hard partition to an uneasy coexistence.

"It's like a bad marriage," one U.S. official said of the current state of affairs between Serbs, Croats and Muslims. But as in any bad marriage, he added, the couple could stay together indefinitely for the sake of the kids, in a loveless arrangement, or they could get a divorce.

Slobodan Lang, a doctor and Croatia's leading human rights activist, described to me a car trip he just took across Croatia and Bosnia, beginning in the Croatian village of Erdut on the Danube. There he found a meeting of Serbs and Croats, discussing an amnesty for Croatian Serb refugees who want to return to their homes in the area. Just a few miles after that he came upon an intersection in Bosnia

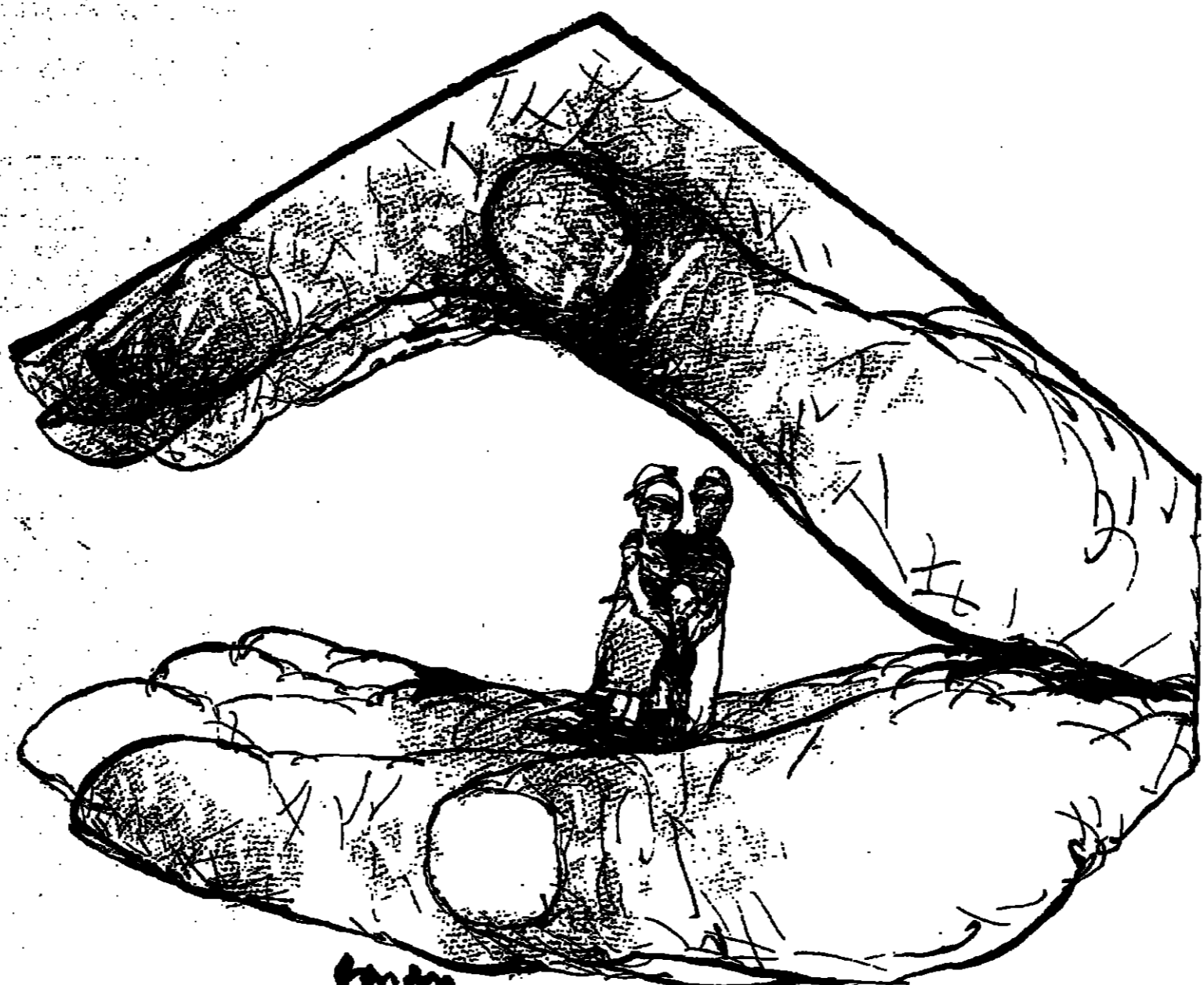
Bosnia needs more time to heal.

where Serb, Croat and Muslim taxi drivers all gather each day in one taxi station to ferry passengers to either Serb-held Brcko, Muslim-held Tuzla, or Croatian-held Sava. Still further along, in Croatian-held Brcko Ravno, he met a Croatian surgeon who had performed 8,700 operations during the war, saving Serbs, Croats and Muslims alike.

Continuing down to Tuzla, he found that city's Muslim Mayor organizing a business fair there at which Serbian, Muslim and Croatian businessmen were paying 200 German marks apiece to set up showrooms. But along the way, he passed a cemetery where Muslims had broken all the crosses over Croatian graves. In Sarajevo, he visited with angry Muslim refugees, who had managed to survive the Serbian massacre in Srebrenica, and were now occupying the abandoned homes of Sarajevo Serbs, who had fled to the Serb Republic, where they are now living in squalor. He passed by Mostar, a city divided between Croats and Muslims that is supposed to be reunited but is instead being partitioned, largely because Croats refuse to share control of the city with their Muslim neighbors. Mostar's division is also being reinforced by Croatian criminal gangs that don't want to see Mostar reunited because it would be bad for their protection rackets. Mr. Lang ended up in Selce, where a Muslim Croat conference was being held on how to help those left handicapped by the war.

That's Bosnia today. The only thing that's clear is that while NATO press passes will expire on Dec. 20, the Bosnian conflict will not. There is still too much rage loose in this land. There are still too many people not living in their homes (1.7 million out of a population of 4 million). There are still too many killers walking free. And, most of all, too many of the leaders responsible for wrecking Bosnia are still around posing as architects of its new dawn. No, there will have to be an ongoing NATO peacekeeping presence here after Dec. 20, and it will have to include some U.S. forces to have credibility. As long as NATO does not become a target, its remaining here with a smaller force for a longer period is worth it. It's a small price to pay to prevent more mass killing and to insure stability in southern Europe. Anyway, you need a longer cease-fire and period of reconstruction to really test whether a stable new order here is possible.

"You Americans are like a doctor who wants to help a woman have a baby, but tells her that her pregnancy can only last three months," said Dr. Lang. "Well, you can't make a baby in three months. You must have more respect for the suffering and the pain and the prejudice that went on here. It is not something that goes away in a year." That's why everyone is simultaneously rebuilding and rearming, he added: "If your house was burned, if you were taken away to a concentration camp by your neighbors, and then NATO says: 'We'll help you for a while, but we're leaving by Dec. 20,' you would be a fool not to be preparing for the next round."



The Public Housing That Succeeds

By Nicholas Lemann

One of the endearing things about Senator Bob Dole is that he is so quintessentially the consensus-oriented legislator that his forays into the realm of wedge issues always have a tinniness, false feeling, as if he isn't emotionally connected to the words coming out of his own mouth. His statement last week that American public housing "is one of the last bastions of socialism in the world" is a good example. It's hard to believe that Mr. Dole was candidly revealing his most deeply held views.

Still, the idea that public housing has failed and should be abolished is something many Americans believe. High-rise public housing projects such as the notoriously dangerous and bleak Robert Taylor Homes in Chicago are the leading visual symbol of the idea that liberal Government programs, especially antipoverty programs, don't work and may actually cause poverty to increase. If public housing were in fact a bankrupt and doomed idea, it would be a very sad end to the oldest and most visible strategy in the struggle against poverty. Jacob Riis's "How the Other Half Lives," published in 1890 and arguably the first American book to propose a plan for improving conditions in urban slums, ended with a call for the construction of "model tenements." If Mr. Dole is right, the whole antipoverty cause would be powerfully undermined.

The truth, however, is that housing for the poor stands out among antipoverty strategies as the area where the most progress has been made over the past generation and where there is the most cause for optimism. Senator Dole's comments were so completely wrong that they could help bring a halt to genuine progress rather than pull the plug on something unworkable.

Before the World War II, public housing in America was considered a great success. It "worked" in the sense of being clean, safe and, for most residents, a huge improvement over the slums where they had been living. There were long waiting lists for apartments.

Nicholas Lemann is the national correspondent for The Atlantic Monthly.

One reason for the projects' good reputation was that their constituency was not the very poor but people with jobs one notch higher on the economic ladder. (Probably the most famous product of the public housing of that era is Elvis Presley.) Most projects wouldn't admit single parents, and many wouldn't admit welfare recipients. Virtually all maintained strict rules about keeping apartments and hallways neat and about who was allowed to be where when. Those who broke the rules or committed crimes were swiftly kicked out. Then in the late 1940's, the nation embarked on the course that led to the perception that public housing doesn't work: the construction of enormous high-rise projects. It wasn't just the architecture, or the mere presence of Government subsidies, that caused these places to go so horribly awry. There was also a big change in the tenant population, from carefully screened working people to the very poor. Because of

Dole sees a socialist failure. He's stuck on ancient history.

changes in Federal rules, people who got jobs actually had to leave the building, and it became nearly impossible to kick out tenants who were criminals.

Even so, it's not all public housing that doesn't work. It's just the large-scale, all-poor, severely isolated projects that invariably fail. Just a few blocks from the Robert Taylor Homes are pleasant high-rise projects for senior citizens.

"Imagine, the United States Government owns the housing where an entire class of citizens permanently lives," Mr. Dole said, as if this were fantastically improbable. Yet in most industrial countries a much larger portion of the population lives in Government housing. Three percent of Americans live in public housing, as opposed to more than a fifth of the population in Great Britain, Germany, France and the Netherlands. What's unusual about American public housing is that it serves primarily the very poor.

It is paradoxical that Mr. Dole chose to stage his attack on public

housing at a realtors' convention, because the real estate industry, by and large, supported the construction of the worst projects. In the 1950's and 60's, African-American migrants from the South were streaming into the big cities, and part of reason for the building of the projects was to contain them within the existing ghettos so as to avoid residential integration.

In any case, the mistake of the high-rise, all-poor projects was fairly quickly realized; in 1968, Congress banned the construction of any more of them. These projects have no defenders except for unaccountably loyal groups of residents. To set high-rise projects up as being the fruits of a real political position, as some critics of public housing have, is to create a straw man.

Under Secretary Henry Cisneros, the Department of Housing and Urban Development has begun demolishing about 30,000 of the worst high-rises. The agency is also trying to reinstate policies of giving preferences to people with jobs and swiftly kicking out criminals.

In his speech to the realtors, Senator Dole called for replacing public housing with a voucher system. But we already have a voucher system, called Section 8, which is perpetually underfunded (partly because the real estate industry is so effective in lobbying against its expansion) and thus has very long waiting lists. Mr. Dole has repeatedly voted against increasing financing for the program, and he failed to support Mr. Cisneros's proposal last year for a major new housing voucher program.

There is an alternative to old-style public housing. In the decades since we stopped building new projects, hundreds of thousands of units for the poor have been created by local community development corporations, private groups that have sprung up around the country since the 70's. On the whole, this is housing that works. Those who haven't visited the South Bronx lately would be amazed to see how vastly areas thought of as desolate have been improved by the new and renovated housing that community groups have put up.

These groups do exactly what Mr. Cisneros is trying to do in public housing: Screen tenants, create a mix of working and very poor people, oust criminals, maintain security forces big enough for residents to feel safe and keep the overall scale of developments manageable small. It's not an exotic, recondite, high-risk formula.

Often people point to the success of the community development corporations as proving that the private sector can succeed where the Government has failed. The implication is that any involvement by the Government is fatally corrupting. But the community groups are heavily financed by the Government. More than three-quarters receive Federal dollars (Washington gives them more than \$300 million each year) and more than half receive state money. The experiments in tenant management pushed strongly by Jack Kemp, Secretary of Housing and Urban Development under President George Bush, were also federally financed.

It should be kept in mind, too, that the disastrous large-scale urban public housing projects were constructed and operated not by Washington but by local housing authorities. In recent years, HUD has begun taking over the management of projects from the most incompetent of the local authorities.

The view that Federal is always bad and state and local are always good just doesn't apply in public housing. The Federal Government pays for virtually all public housing and contracts with local organizations to run it. The key variables are whether the project's rules are sound and whether the local group in charge is competent.

The conditions in the worst public housing projects are horrifyingly bad and constitute a real moral crisis. It is outrageous that week after week children continue to lose their lives to the violence of the projects and we don't do anything about it. It doesn't do public housing residents who live in fear and misery any good to be told that what they're going through is attributable to "socialism" and therefore can't be helped.

Note to Readers
The Op-Ed page welcomes unsolicited manuscripts. Because of the volume of submissions, however, we regret that we cannot acknowledge an article or return it unless it is accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope. If manuscripts are accepted for publication, authors will be notified within two weeks.

Liberties

MAUREEN DOWD

Tarred, Rested, Ready

WASHINGTON
I recognized the Speaker, even though he did not have a snake draped around his neck.

He wanted to sit on his patio in the Capitol, overlooking the Washington Monument, but the spring day did not disguise his autumnal quality. He's no longer the ebullient revolutionary who described himself as a 4-year-old in search of a cookie.

The man who boasted in the flush of the '94 elections that his revolution could change America's moral character has been tempered. "We're not used to being the majority," concedes Newt Gingrich, in shirt-sleeves and green dinosaur tie.

Two smart, prolix, pudgy, undisciplined baby boomers went into battle on the budget. One came out looking adult. Mr. Gingrich had a tantrum about his treatment on Air Force One and lost control of his rabid freshmen. (Who do these guys think they are? he railed to a friend. "You," the reply came back.)

He went into the budget debate with a cocky attitude, but no fallback plan. "He defined victory as having Clinton cry uncle," said a pal.

Mr. Gingrich says the Democrats were out to get him, recalling a 1994 New Republic column by Robert Wright exhorting: "I say we beat the noxious little butterfly to a pulp."

Fearing he was hurting his revolution, he dropped out of sight last December. "You have to pull out to re-enter, to get a sense of vision and strategies," he says. Now his House troops, frustrated by the Democrats doing a fandango on their party, want him to re-engage.

"It's the only time in my entire

The Newt is back!

career people have asked me to speak out," he said with a dry smile. "My grandmother must be looking down from heaven in total disbelief. She always told me that I talked too much. It's nice to be wanted."

The old bomb-thrower is returning as healer, talking about mending his "anxiety-ridden" factions into a team.

"We can win if we just go out in a calm, methodical way and make clear the choice," he says. "You say Charlie Rangel or Bill Archer? Teddy Kennedy or Orrin Hatch? The gap here is, like, gigantic."

Before the Speaker had a chance to play healer, the junior Senator from New York let loose, mocking "the mythical Contract With America" and telling Don Imus Thursday that Mr. Gingrich had misread the '94 elections and cut too much on education and the environment.

Mr. D'Amato wanted to separate Dole/Gingrich, which the White House pronounces as one word. Democrats learned, with Dukakis/Horton, the value of tying a scary symbol to a lackluster candidate.

Mr. Gingrich was none too pleased to have Al D'Amato pass judgment on him, but he stayed calm.

"He should be careful on Imus—he got in a lot of trouble last time," Mr. Gingrich digs, alluding to the Senator's ill-advised Judge Ito imitation. "He voted for everything he's now complaining about."

Of the Dole-Clinton match-up, Mr. Gingrich says: "I'm not sure that dignity loses to garrulousness." The Speaker, who knows the perils of garrulousness, sounds as if he's taking the older man as a model. "Bob Dole has been through a lot and he learned when he was disciplined and focused and endured, he did fine."

Is he impressed with the way Dick Morris has refashioned Mr. Clinton's image as mature centrist?

"Laurence Olivier plays many roles," he said of the President. "If you stipulate somebody as a good actor, why should it surprise you when they act well? Is somebody who's always sincere ever sincere?"

He said he had refused to hire Mr. Morris because he felt the consultant was willing to run false ads and believed in "power at any cost." It sounds disingenuous, given the Republican record on untruth in advertising, but he continues: "The Dick Morris model is essentially P. T. Barnum. Dick Morris and his client are clever enough to go from sucker to sucker until they win the election. Our model, which perfectly fits the Dole reality, is Abraham Lincoln."

Over at The Weekly Standard, Bill Kristol was depressed about "Newt's team stuff." "The point isn't for him to come back and be a nice guy," he says. "He has to lead the advance into enemy territory."

I asked the most unpopular politician in America if he still dreams of the Presidency?

"Who knows?" he says, staring out into the drizzly day. "You get eight years of the Dole Presidency and by then I may be too tired and I may want to go play with the dinosaurs and animals."

Make Rejection Work for You

By Paul Devlin

Across America recently, high school seniors nervously checked their mailboxes. Many found the dreaded thin envelope—the rejection letter. I know how they feel. It made me feel a lot better, some years ago, to send a response much like this:

Office of Admissions
Any College
Wherever, U.S.A.
Dear Admissions Committee:
Having reviewed the many rejection

letters I have received in the last few weeks, it is with great regret that I must inform you I am unable to accept your rejection at this time.

This year, after applying to a great many colleges and universities, I received an especially fine crop of rejection letters. Unfortunately, the number of rejections that I can accept is limited.

Each of my rejections was reviewed carefully and on an individual basis. Many factors were taken into account—the size of the institution, student-faculty ratio, location, reputation, costs and social atmosphere.

I am certain that most colleges I

The proper reply to the admissions office.

applied to are more than qualified to reject me. I am also sure that some mistakes were made in turning away some of these rejections. I can only hope they were few in number. I am aware of the keen disappointment my decision may bring. Throughout my deliberations, I have kept in mind the time and

effort it may have taken for you to reach your decision to reject me.

Keep in mind that at times it was necessary for me to reject even those letters of rejection that would normally have met my traditionally high standards.

I appreciate your having enough interest in me to reject my application. Let me take the opportunity to wish you well in what I am sure will be a successful academic year.

See you in the fall!
Sincerely,
Paul Devlin,
Applicant at Large

Paul Devlin is a video editor and writer.



FILM

# Don't Bother Crying for the Latest Evita Either

By MICHAEL DWYER

BUDAPEST

**I**n a large disused railway yard here, an old black locomotive billows smoke as 221 Hungarian extras in period clothing assemble in the morning sunshine. It is day 48 of the 82-day shoot of Alan Parker's film of the musical "Evita." Budapest is standing in for Buenos Aires in the 1940's. The day's call sheet asks for 150 railway workers, 20 workers' wives and 20 babies, 25 soldiers, assorted others and two stand-ins for the leads, who wait on a platform in front of the locomotive and face the crowd as the extras are deployed.

Then the stars enter. Playing Col. Juan Domingo Perón, Jonathan Pryce strolls onto the set in uniform, his hair slicked back. In the role of Eva Duarte, Madonna follows, wearing a plain brown dress, a checked jacket, black high heels and a black hat adorned with a large pink ribbon. Colonel Perón, a rising politician courting the support of the workers, addresses the crowd with Eva, his fiancée, at his side.

"Argentina is blessed by one thing, and one thing only," the actor thunders. "And that is the moral integrity of the working people."

With the director playing cheerleader in the background, the workers burst into cheers and applause. Eva smiles coyly as Juan Perón

and Andrew Lloyd Webber that preceded their Broadway stage version, which won seven Tony awards in 1980.

"I went right back to what I first reacted to — the original concept album — and that's what I played all the time as I wrote my script," said Mr. Parker.

That decision also made it clear that the actors would have to be strong singers. "The days of Natalie Wood or Audrey Hepburn miming to somebody else's voice are gone," he said. "There's a basic dishonesty about that which you wouldn't get away with in a contemporary film."

The entire score of "Evita" was recorded in a London studio over four months last fall — before a single scene was filmed — instead of doing it after filming, as is usual. Some of the original lyrics were changed, entire arrangements were updated, and a new song, "You Must Love Me," sung by Madonna, was added.

The narrator of the film, who is simply known as Che, is played by the Spanish actor Antonio Banderas. In the stage version, Che was Che Guevara.

"I always thought that was a theatrical device," Mr. Parker said, "but in film terms it's a red herring." He also dropped the play's conceit that Che Guevara and Eva Perón had met.

"For me, Che is the narrator," he said. "This sardonic Brechtian figure, who's always there and always commenting and giving the alternative view, is the conscience of Argentina within the piece. He turns up everywhere — as a waiter, as a reporter, as a projectionist. Tim and Andrew read my script, and they accepted my logic and went with it from the beginning."

The film is clearly an epic production. Mr. Parker and his crew have filmed vast crowd scenes, first in Buenos Aires — where Madonna's presence and her supposed presumption in taking on the role of the beloved Eva Perón stirred up considerable controversy — and here in Budapest, using up to 4,000 extras in some sequences.

The budget, a reported \$60 million, was provided by Cinerigi Pictures Entertainment, which presold the film to Hollywood Pictures, a division of Disney, for distribution in North and South America.

"I read in the trade papers that the budget was 'north of 60,'" Mr. Parker said. "I never heard that phrase before. It weighs heavily on your shoulders. This gigantic group of people, this circus we travel around with, is everything that one requires to make a film of this scale. With that comes the bill at the end."

Madonna, whose announcement of her pregnancy last month was greeted with much fanfare, had longed to play Eva for years, and she trained extensively for the demanding singing role.

"When I sat down with the musical director and I heard all the stuff I had to learn, I thought, 'I have to work with somebody on this,'" she said during a break in the filming.

Still, the seemingly unflappable pop star recalled having a few bad moments in the studio.

"I must say I dreaded singing 'Don't Cry for Me, Argentina' because that's, like, the song," she said. "And can you imagine, I had to sing it the very first day we were in the recording studio, the first time in front of Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber, the first day with the 500-piece orchestra — and I had to sing that song. I was practically in tears. Recording all the songs in advance



Madonna as Eva Perón on the set of Alan Parker's film of "Evita" in Buenos Aires.

### In Budapest, the making of 'Evita' is itself an epic.

### Even for the star, it's a stretch: Madonna takes singing lessons.

embraces her. She mingles with the workers and their wives in the next scene, glad-handing them and hugging their babies, doing her bit to boost the colonel's career.

The focus of "Evita," of course, is Eva Duarte, the illegitimate daughter of a penniless farmer in the tiny pampas town of Junin, west of Buenos Aires. Leaving home while still in her teens, the ambitious Eva became a minor radio and film actress and soon began moving in influential Buenos Aires social circles. She became the mistress and then the second wife of Perón, who was elected president in 1946 with the inspirational Eva by his side.

Perón dominated his country's politics for nearly 30 years. Eva — Evita to her legion of admirers — dominates the Argentine imagination to this day. As First Lady, she built hospitals, visited the poor, helped women win the right to vote and formed the Peronist Women's Party. When the people encouraged her to run as a vice-presidential candidate, there was growing resentment among the military and politicians toward her expanding political power. In 1952, at the age of 33, she died of cancer.

The most adventurous leap in Alan Parker's film of "Evita," which is expected to have its world premiere at Radio City Music Hall in November, is that virtually every word is sung; the words addressed by Mr. Pryce to the workers in the railway yard are among the very few in the movie that are spoken.

Mr. Parker, who also wrote the screenplay, based it on the 1976 concept album of "Evita" by Tim Rice

of shooting complicated an already complicated project.

"When we were recording the music, we would act out the scenes repeatedly before Alan would settle on the take he liked most, the one he most visualized shooting," Madonna said. "When we couldn't decide, we would record several different versions, as if we were doing an acting take on a film. So if we wanted something bigger and more dramatic, we would have that, and if we wanted something smaller and quieter, we had that as an option."

"After we recorded everything, I thought shooting would be a nightmare, like recording the dialogue ahead of time. But we've all been pleasantly surprised that we really like the choices we've made. I have to pay tribute to Alan for being so clear as to know so far ahead of time what we needed."

Mr. Parker, in turn, had kind words for his star. "I've always liked her," he said. "We worked for a time on developing a film based on 'The Blue Angel,' which Diane Keaton was producing and Neal Jimenez was writing. It didn't get made, as often films don't."

"The thing about Madonna is that she's so well known," he continued. "She's an icon, and people have views about her, for and against, rather similar to the way that people had very different views on Eva Perón, funnily enough."

Casting Mr. Banderas as Che, his first singing role, was an easy choice to make, Mr. Parker said.

"Antonio's been involved with this film through many of its manifestations, when the film was likely to be directed by Glenn Gordon Carron and by Oliver Stone," said the director. "I saw an original audition tape Antonio had done five years ago, when he was unknown in America except to art-house audiences for his Pedro Almodóvar films. I saw 10 seconds of that tape, and I said, 'He's it.'"

A busy actor who made five movies last year, Mr. Banderas said he intends to take a break after completing his next project, "Zorro," directed by Roberto Rodriguez, which begins filming this summer.

And while the singing talents of

Mr. Banderas may come as a surprise to moviegoers, the vocal talents of Jonathan Pryce will be familiar to audiences who saw him on stage in the musicals "Miss Saigon" and "Oliver!"

Amid much controversy, "Evita" went into production in Buenos Aires in February for five weeks and two days of shooting before moving on to Budapest for five weeks and finally to Shepperton Studios outside London for three more weeks.

The film makers chose Budapest for location filming because it hadn't undergone modernization to the same extent as Buenos Aires had and yet still offered good film production facilities.

When Mr. Parker arrived in Buenos Aires with the cast and crew, he was alarmed by the view from his hotel window. Huge slogans were daubed on a wall facing the hotel. One read "Chau (Goodbye) Parker and your English task force." An-

other read "Fuera [Go home] Madonna."

The director had his hopes set on using the Presidential palace, Casa Rosada, for the big balcony scene in which Madonna, as Eva, sings "Don't Cry for Me, Argentina" to the masses below. He had been negotiating with the President of Argentina, Carlos Saul Menem, a Peronist, who had at first decried the film as "inappropriate" and described Madonna as "unsuitable" for the role of Eva.

"It was very difficult," said Mr. Parker. "The conventional wisdom was that we would never ever be given permission. But as the juggernaut of the film powered its way through Buenos Aires, we kind of won them over, and there were very few people painting 'go home' signs."

"I promised Menem that it would be a very balanced film, and I also was very strong about not allowing them to interfere with it. My line to them was that no true democracy

should be afraid of a movie," he said. Still, Mr. Parker made contingency plans to build the entire facade of the Casa Rosada at Shepperton Studios.

The more they got to know us and the more we were around, I think they realized the movie was going to be made whether they helped us or not, so they decided to help us," the director said. "Two weeks before we finished filming in the city, Menem gave us permission to use the Casa Rosada."

"There are so many views of Eva Perón in Argentina and elsewhere. I think it's impossible to make a film that will please everyone," he continued. "It's not a whitewash. On the other hand, it's a very emotional film about a woman who came from nowhere, who clearly did a great deal of good and ended up dying very young. In the end, I think they might not agree with everything, I say in the film, but I think they will be proud of it."

## CHOICES, CHOICES

BY DAVID J. KAHN / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

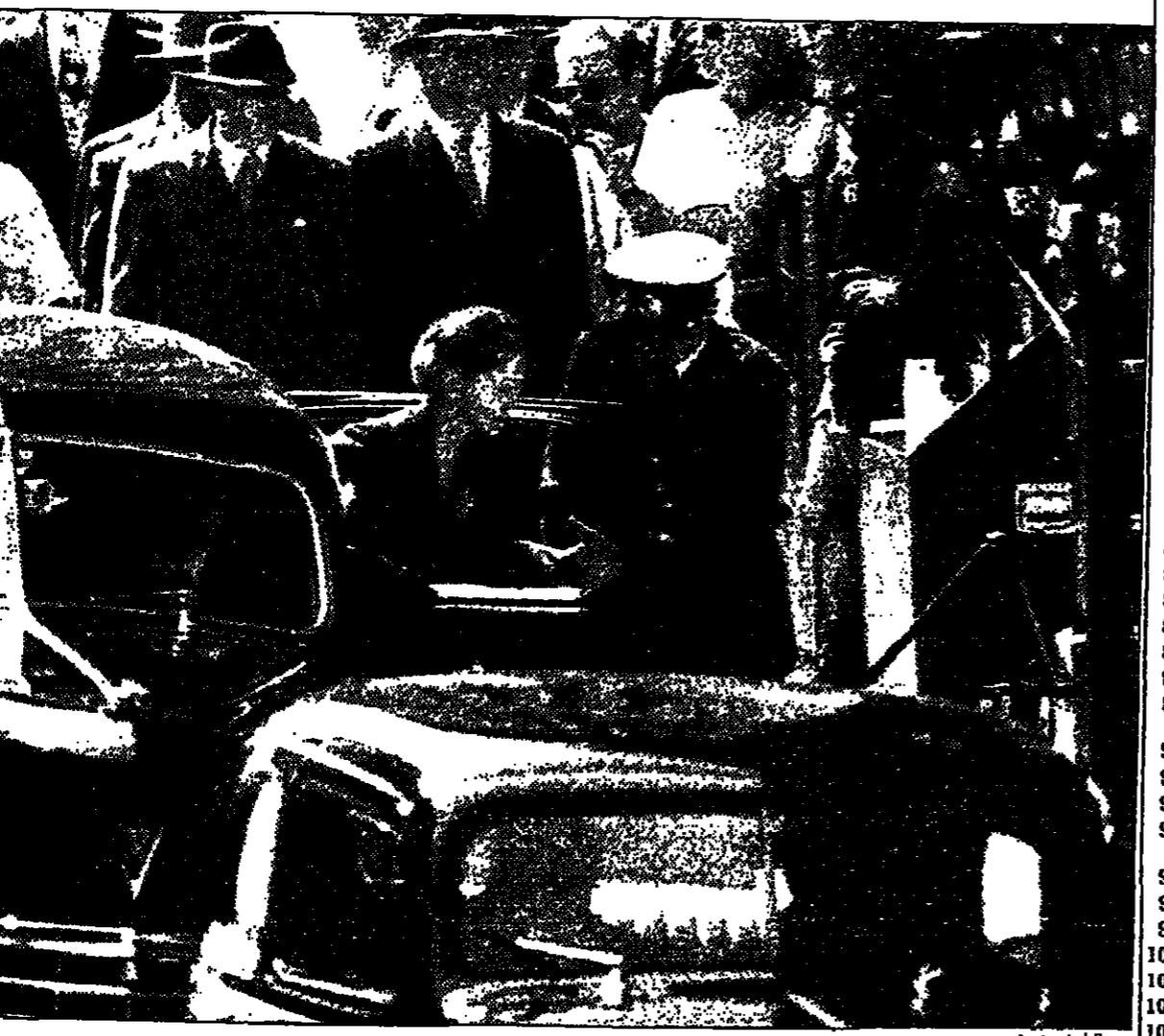
- ACROSS**
- 1 Medical chart info
  - 7 Jeans, restyled
  - 14 Baseball's George and Ken
  - 20 In error
  - 21 Adventurously
  - 22 Kind of photo
  - 23 Pyle portrayer
  - 24 Birthday party items
  - 25 Without question
  - 26 Screw-cutting apparatus
  - 28 Neuters
  - 29 Auto repair shop inventory
  - 30 Ottawa hockey team
  - 32 Clarifying words
  - 34 Highest stage
  - 37 Place to wear a fez
  - 38 Fortune
  - 39 "God's Little"
  - 43 Policy of achieving a goal in steps
  - 46 Take down
  - 48 Be busily active
  - 49 Elusive one
  - 50 Common worker
  - 51 — bono (for whose benefit?); Lat.
  - 52 Director Wenders
  - 55 Onetime butterfly-bee analogist
  - 56 Machine gun noise
  - 58 Nasal sound
  - 60 Seraglio room
  - 61 Tree member: Abbr.
  - 62 Tennis overhand
  - 63 Pay — goad
  - 64 Child's delight
  - 66 Symbol of mourning
  - 69 New Deal proj.
  - 70 Inactive one
  - 71 Will Rogers trait
  - 74 Of the back, anatomically
  - 76 Gamut
  - 80 Last poker bet, sometimes
  - 81 Brillo rival
  - 82 Exercises outdoors
  - 83 Well-formed
  - 85 O.T. book
  - 86 Cable network
  - 87 Sampras objective
  - 88 — Girl (Clara Bow)
  - 90 Sorrow
  - 91 Seventh in a series
  - 92 On — (anxious)
  - 94 Political cause of the late 1800's
  - 96 1978 Yankee hero
  - 98 — Star Pictures
  - 99 Thick jar
  - 100 English refs.
  - 101 Bankrupts
  - 103 Innkeeper
  - 106 Part of a Rube Goldberg contraption

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20																		
23																		
26																		
34	35	36																
43																		
46																		
56																		
62																		
71	72	73																
80																		
85																		
91																		
96																		
106	107	108																
116																		
120																		
123																		

- 109 Northern highway, formerly
- 112 Not imitative
- 116 Mess up
- 117 Domestic fowl
- 119 Longtime Peter Lorre role
- 120 Woolen overcoat
- 121 Inhabiting elevated regions
- 122 Reach before
- 123 Exports from
- 124 Made hard
- 125 Ray of light
- 17 Category
- 18 Report
- 19 Stallone and Stone
- 27 Mustang corral?
- 31 Haunt
- 33 Missouri's state tree
- 34 Certain paint processors
- 35 Word with puff or soda
- 36 It became independent on 9/21/64
- 40 One-named actress
- 41 School tool
- 42 Noted first name in literature
- 44 Rocker motion
- 45 Blue-and-yellow macaw
- 46 Golden
- 47 Cherry
- 51 Call together
- 53 Pastoral poem
- 54 Stylish Italian auto
- 57 Yiddish writer Sholem
- 58 Unpleasant
- 63 — Lingus
- 64 Pop group — Tuesday
- 65 Golf impediment
- 67 — Goeth of "Schindler's List"
- 68 Private entrance
- 71 Treated to a night out
- 72 Divers, in a way
- 73 Arizona native
- 75 Houston pros
- 77 Chutzpah
- 78 Fixed on, with "to"
- 79 Intent watchers
- 82 Slovenly woman
- 83 Jason, e.g.
- 84 Greetings
- 89 Bullied
- 93 Wins over
- 94 Direct
- 95 Big name in TV production
- 97 Melancholy
- 98 1984 World Series champs
- 99 Pure
- 102 Lacking guidance
- 104 Extensions
- 106 White-plumed heron
- 106 Part to keep
- 107 It's collected at a booth
- 108 Subterfuge
- 110 1966 Joe Orton play
- 111 Word with sugar
- 113 Observe
- 114 Start of a cry of encouragement
- 115 Appear
- 118 Chemical suffix

**ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE**

OVERT	SODAS	GERIATRO
ROPER	UPDATE	RETRACTS
OLIVEAS	UPDEN	ALDRIDGE
EMERSON	LOADSTAR	
ALPACAS	GIRL	ARMS
FOOTER	BOREAL	DIMITIS
LAPS	ISGARS	FILE
AFI	EASY	GUR
SEA	CHER	SHUDGE
ERR	LINDER	SHOON
OPAL	SHEER	ELEWED
REPENTS	DAK	MOKEY
EXIT	STILLS	DOKEY
VINED	ANA	WORD
ELI	EPIC	ARISTAL
LEOPARD	ARISTAL	DIGG
SMARE	SIGN	GALBEN
ROSEBUSH	SIGN	GALBEN
PECANISE	UTAH	TOBEY
CREDENCE	MOLES	ILONA
SELESTER	GNONE	SLOES



Madonna as Eva Perón on the set of "Evita" during filming in Buenos Aires—One icon playing another.

Handwritten text in a box at the bottom right of the page.



# Witness agreements in public interest

In the Supreme Court, sitting as a High Court of Justice, before justices Theodore Orr, Mishael Cheskin and Ya'acov Kedmi, in the matter of Abed Aamas and Eliyahu Asraf, petitioners, versus the attorney-general, the state attorney, and Issa Tahar Mansour, respondents (Cr.A.66799/93).

**T**he police suspected several people, including the respondent Mansour, of belonging to a gang of car thieves and dealers in stolen car parts. The petitioners, Aamas and Asraf, owned a garage in Jerusalem called Tzameret Halafim. They were suspected of being wholesalers in selling stolen car parts, and Mansour was seen in their garage. The police had insufficient evidence against Mansour of the petitioners to justify their being charged. However, after telling Mansour they had evidence against him, he agreed to act as an undercover police agent, and to testify for the state against the petitioners and others who would be charged with car thefts and dealing in stolen car parts. He received in return an undertaking that he would not be charged for offenses of his own which he disclosed.

Mansour was true to his word, enabling police to amass evidence against many dealers, including the petitioners, who had allegedly bought and sold parts of hundreds or even thousands of stolen vehicles. Aamas and Asraf were being tried in the Jerusalem District Court for several offenses relating to stolen cars under sections 413 and 499 of the Penal Law of 1977. Mansour testified against them.

The defendants therefore petitioned the Supreme Court, sitting as a High Court of Justice, to

LAW REPORT  
ASHER FELIX LANDAU

invalidate Mansour's agreement with the prosecution as unlawful, and to order that he too be charged with the offenses he has committed.

JUSTICE ORR delivered the first judgment of the court. The petitioners had submitted, he said, that the very procedure of granting a criminal status of a state witness in return for his immunity from prosecution was unlawful. They also argued that the Jerusalem district attorney and the police, who had signed the agreement with Mansour, had exercised their discretion wrongly in view of the extent of his involvement in the offenses for which he was now freed from prosecution.

Citing precedents, Justice Orr pointed out that the procedure complained of, although not welcomed by the courts, had long been recognized as the lesser of two evils in the fight against crime. Where there was insufficient evidence to charge all the parties to a crime so they would all escape punishment, the public interest demanded that one of them be granted immunity on condition he testify against the others, which was likely to lead to their conviction.

That procedure, he continued, was sanctioned by section 62 of the Criminal Procedure Law (Consolidated Version) of 1982. It states: "Where it appears to the prosecutor to whom the investigation material has been transmitted that there is sufficient evidence to charge a particular person, he shall prosecute him unless he is of the opinion that no public interest is involved..."

The meaning of the expression "public interest" in section 62, he said, was considered in Ganor's

case (H.C. 935, 940-943/89; *The Jerusalem Post Law Reports*, p.143), in which it was held: "As a general rule the attorney-general should prosecute where there was prima-facie proof of an offense. The exception to the rule existed where the prosecution would not be in the public interest. In making his decision, the attorney-general had to take into account that all were equal before the law, and that the state was concerned in the elimination and deterrence of crime, and in the protection of its victims."

Justice Orr added that the Knesset had recognized the validity of an agreement with an offender to be a "state witness" in section 54A of the Evidence Ordinance (New Version) of 1971, which requires corroboration of the evidence by a witness before convicting a defendant.

The attorney-general and district attorney had explained to the court the background of the agreement with Mansour. Car thefts had become a national scourge, and police had concluded that the best way to mitigate it was to find and prosecute the large wholesale dealers of stolen car parts in Israel and, at the same time, to snare thieves from the territories who stole the cars and dismantled them.

In fact, Mansour supplied the necessary evidence which enabled police to proceed against the petitioners and other wholesalers, who were the central factor in car thefts.

The court had already held (in H.C.6059/93), said Justice Orr, that it would only intervene in "state witness" agreements in which there was "a clear and patent flaw indicating a breach of ethical governmental standards or the principles of public adminis-

tration." Even if that test were extended to include unreasonableness, he added, there was no ground for intervention in the present case.

Petitioners' counsel, he said, had also relied on section 3(b) of the attorney-general's directives, which required the prior consent to such an agreement of the state attorney after consultation with the attorney-general, and no such consent had been given.

The court had been told the above directive had long been disregarded, and counsel's submission, therefore, could not be accepted. At the same time, Justice Orr noted, it was desirable that the directives be brought up-to-date to reflect the present procedures followed.

The petitioners also urged the court to order that Mansour be tried for other offenses he committed not covered by the agreement. The court had no details of those offenses, and they had no connection with the validity of the agreement. In any case, the court presumed the prosecution would consider that aspect and act accordingly.

Justice Orr proposed, therefore, that the petition be dismissed.

JUSTICE CHESHIN concurred.

JUSTICE KEDMI also concurred. He added that in his view the court should intervene not only where the flaw in the prosecution's decision was "clear and patent," but also "meaningful and serious."

FOR THE above reasons, the petition was dismissed.

Ariel Atari appeared for the petitioners, and Shai Nitzan, senior assistant state attorney, appeared for the state.

The judgment was given on April 29, 1996.

# Jerusalem Day - a week-long event

GREER FAY CASHMAN

**M**ANY people like to show off photos of their nearest and dearest. They display them in their homes and their offices, and carry them around in their wallets so that they can flash them whenever the occasion permits.

Zvi Raviv on the other hand, uses every opportunity to whip out photos of events related to Jerusalem 3000. The international coordinator for Jerusalem 3000, Raviv has traveled the world to attend scores of Jerusalem 3000 ceremonies.

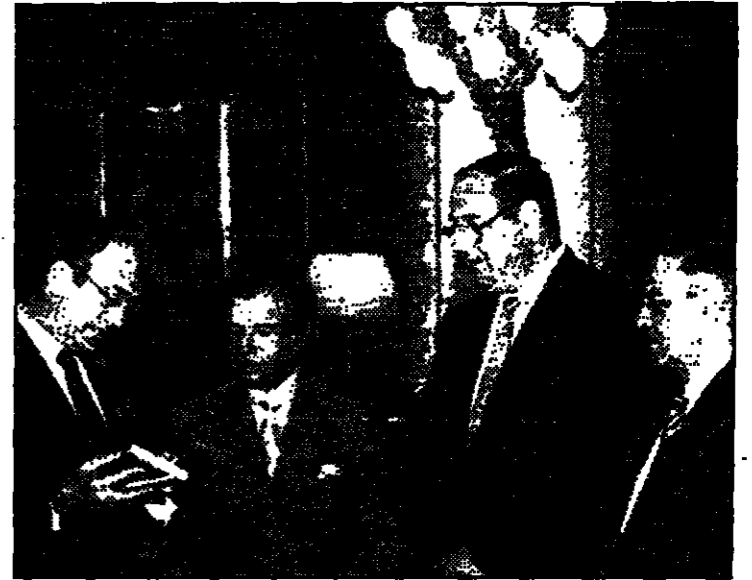
"Israelis tend to view Jerusalem 3000 with some degree of cynicism," he says, noting that elsewhere in the world governments, municipalities, organizations and individuals are scrambling to join the Jerusalem 3000 bandwagon.

The names of more than 200 streets and parks have been changed to mark Jerusalem 3000, he says, adding that people from the most improbable places are linking their cities and countries with Jerusalem 3000, through cultural exchange agreements, participation in Jerusalem-related competitions, lecture series or gala performances. Examples include South Korea, "where there is no Jewish community," Finland, Vietnam, Fiji, Malaysia and Indonesia. Some of these countries, Raviv emphasizes, have no diplomatic ties with Israel.

Jewish communities large and small are eager to be involved. The most recent of these is the Belgrade community, which has organized a series of activities in which Jerusalem is the focal point.

Jerusalem 3000 activities are coordinated on a global scale by close to 200 committees in 25 countries in addition to numerous Israeli committees. Israeli diplomatic missions abroad are also promoting it and helping their host countries with arrangements. Eleven countries including Russia and Argentina will be issuing Jerusalem 3000 stamps, which are destined to become collectors' items. A tribute to the success of Jerusalem 3000, observes Raviv, is the fact that the Russian education minister is coming to take pointers on how to organize next year's Moscow 850 celebrations.

ONE OF the major highlights of Jerusalem 3000 will be Jerusalem



Zvi Raviv (center right) is seen in a snapshot of a Buenos Aires Jerusalem 3000 event which includes Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert (left), Argentinian president Carlos Menem (center left) and Israeli Ambassador to Argentina Yitzhak Aviran.

Day, celebrating the 29th anniversary of the reunification of the city. In Israel, it will start on Monday May 13 and culminate on Saturday May 18, while in other countries it will go on for shorter periods and not necessarily in accordance with the Hebrew calendar.

The main thrust of Jerusalem Day celebrations in Jerusalem itself will be cultural. The emphasis on culture, according to Raviv, is deliberate. "Jerusalem 3000," he explains, "is not a political statement; it's a cultural statement."

Raviv points out that Mayor Ehud Olmert recently secured a \$40 million contribution from business tycoon Shoul Eisenberg for the creation of the Eisenberg Center for the Performing Arts.

The expansion of the Jerusalem International Convention Center (Binyanei Ha'uma), he says, also facilitates more cultural activity, as will a 40,000-seat amphitheater going up in Malha, the neighborhood which already boasts the largest shopping mall in the Middle East, Teddy Stadium and the Jerusalem Biblical Zoo.

The ICC will host the opening of the Jerusalem Day week, which will be launched with an exhibition of pre-Columbian art donated by the government of Peru.

On May 15, the ICC will provide music lovers with a multitude of harmonies when the IDF Orchestra and the Ra'anana Sinfonietta join forces to play

classical music, popular Israeli music and traditional klezmer and Ladino melodies. Brazilian singer Fortunee Safdie, a member of the well-known banking family, will also appear at this concert and at the closing concert at the Sultan's Pool where other star performers will include Dudu Fisher, Nehama Hendl, Hava Alberstein, Danny Robes, Danny Litani and several other popular Israeli entertainers.

AMMUNITION Hill, one of the traditional sites for Jerusalem Day celebrations and commemorations for soldiers who fought and died there, will this year be the scene of a state ceremony to be conducted in English for the benefit of thousands of non-Hebrew speakers from abroad.

Raviv says that he knows of 2,500 people who are coming to Israel in organized groups, and he is confident that many more will come as families or individuals.

What will delight visitors and locals alike on Friday, May 17 (the actual date of Jerusalem Day), will be a street carnival; an international relay run with 3,000 runners crossing the city from the Haas Promenade to Safra Square; and a solidarity march from Safra Square to the Western Wall where Religious Affairs Minister Shimon Shetret and several rabbis will lead prayers for peace for Jerusalem in particular and for the world at large.

# A tale of milk and hormones

**T**HE powerful US dairy lobby has been fighting to protect its interest in milk, a campaign whose scope resembles the lobby's struggle some 50 years ago to prevent margarine being colored yellow. Back then, the dairy industry felt that allowing yellow margarine would be detrimental to the sales of real butter, so during World War II everyone bought their margarine in blocks of pure white that were sold with a little packet of dye which then had to be whipped into the margarine to get yellow table spread.

Since the milk-flavored margarine was forbidden as well, many people also whipped evaporated milk into the margarine, along with the dye. It was difficult, which was exactly what the dairy industry wanted.

The latest controversy centers around milk that is produced by giving the cows a genetically engineered hormone, bovine somatotrophin (BST), which raises milk production by up to 20 percent.

Natural BST is the hormone that all cows have and which controls milk production levels. Following long and arduous lobbying, the dairy industry seems to have won.

The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has ruled that dairymen who do not use the genetically engineered hormone may not label their milk as "hor-

EARTHLY CONCERNS  
D'VORA BEN SHAUL

none free" or make any other reference to the matter unless they include a long and complicated explanation telling the consumer that genetically engineered BST is as safe as regular milk and that there is no reason to avoid it.

Otherwise, the dairy lobby says, it would be a "false and misleading health claim." They also want those producing natural milk to keep records proving that their cows have never been injected.

BUT SOME conventional dairymen and many environmentalists oppose the use of the genetically engineered hormone for several reasons - mainly that this form of BST produces 79% more cases of mastitis (udder infection) in the cows.

This, they say, will almost certainly result in the farmers using far more antibiotics to control infections. Since these antibiotics often do appear in the milk, this could cause the development of antibiotic-resistant bacteria in humans - who consistently are exposed to these low antibiotic dosages.

In addition, the critics fear that people who are allergic to some antibiotics may be endangered by exposure to traces that went

undetected in routine testing. It is a simple matter, they say, for a farmer with one cow with mastitis to treat her and not sell the milk, but something else when the same farmer has a half dozen or more cows with the same condition.

Furthermore, they argue, the same FDA says there is no reason to believe that irradiated food is dangerous, but it does require the labeling of such food.

In addition, although the FDA approves the use of pesticides, it still places no restrictions on farmers who wish to label their fruits and vegetables as "organically grown."

This milk labeling is being done, they claim, as a sop to the powerful dairy lobby in order to make it impossible for the consumer to know what is in the milk carton.

One outspoken opponent of the genetically engineered BST, Jerry Rifkin of the Pure Food Campaign, says milk should be labeled as to whether this hormone has been used.

He said it is important for the court to decide the issue, because within a few years a large percentage of our food will be produced with the addition of genetically engineered materi-

als, especially meat and poultry products, and even some of our fruits and vegetables.

This attempt to prevent the labeling of this product will be a precedent for all future products, and the failure to label milk as having been produced by genetically engineered hormones will create a situation in which consumers will not have any control over what they eat.

## The Sixth Jerusalem International Judaica Fair

May 5-9, 1996  
at the International Convention Center, Jerusalem (Binyanei Ha'uma)

Featuring classic and modern Judaica, rare manuscripts, maps and prints at the Sixth Jerusalem International Judaica Fair. Artists, collectors and galleries from Israel and abroad will participate in the Fair which this year is a part of the Jerusalem 3000 celebrations.

**Judaica Fair Hours:**  
Sunday, May 5 5:30 pm - 9:00 pm  
Mon.-Wed. May 6-8 11:00 am - 9:30 pm  
Thursday, May 9 11:00 am - 7:00 pm.

**SPECIAL EXHIBITIONS:**  
Winning and selected works of participants in the International Judaica Design Competition. 90th anniversary of Bezael.

Special for Israel and Holders  
By One Ticket  
Get One For Free  
For 30 Stars

ישראל 3000

המועדון הישראלי ליהודאיקה

The Association for Promoting Tourism in Israel

**THE ECONOMIC FORUM**

In conjunction with the Ministry of Tourism, together with the Association for Promoting Tourism in Israel, the Jerusalem Development Authority, the East Jerusalem Development Company and the Jerusalem Hotel Association

Jerusalem Development Authority | Jerusalem Hotel Association | East Jerusalem Development Company

**Jerusalem as an International Tourism Center in the Era Of Peace**

Seminar and Gala Dinner, under the patronage of  
**Minister of Tourism, Uzi Baram**  
Sunday, May 12, 1996 at 6:30 p.m.  
in the Teddy Auditorium, International Congress Center, Binyanei Ha'uma, Jerusalem.

**in the presence of Mayor of Jerusalem, Ehud Olmert MK**  
Chairman: Eli Gonen, Director General, Ministry of Tourism

**Speakers:**  
Amos Mar-Haim, Chairman of the Jerusalem Development Authority • Ya'acov Efrati, Dir.-Gen. of the Jerusalem Municipality  
Amnon Lorch, Chairman of the East Jerusalem Development Co.  
Gabriel Cartes, architect • Advocate Yehuda Raveh • Yossi Talgan  
Guest Speaker: Benny Gaon, Managing Director of Koor Industries Ltd.

**Moderator: Gad Lior, Head of the Jerusalem Bureau, Yediot Aharonot**

**Honorary Executive Committee (in alphabetical order):**  
Shalva Altuvia, Minister Uzi Baram, Yoram Belizovsky, Elihu Ben-Elissar MK, Naomi Blumenthal MK, Doron Cohen, Ran Cohen MK, Moshe Dovrat, Ya'acov Efrati, Avi Golan, Shlomo Halevi, Tzahi Hanegbi MK, Yonatan Harpaz, Dalia Itzik MK, Yehuda Levy, Gad Lior, Amos Mar-Haim, Yehoshua Matza MK, Shmuel Meir, Eli Mizrahi, Eli Moyal, Meir Nitzan, Mayor Ehud Olmert MK, Yosef Pechtman, Adv. Yehuda Flave, Adv. Yossef Richter, Uri Scharf, Prof. Arye Shafir, Silvan Shalom MK, Adv. Yossi Shapiro, Minister Shimon Shetret, Matti Tal, Rafi Wiener, Avi Yehudaiof, Mordechai Yona, Moshe Zigdun, Emanuel Zissman MK, Shimon Zurkell

Chairman Israel Isaacs | Legal Advisors Adv. Ze'ev Weil Adv. Yitzhak Mina | Advisor for Planning and Land Development Adv. Tamar Raveh | Accountant Matti Ganor

**The seminar is intended for:**  
Entrepreneurs, company presidents and directors, board members, director generals, tourism and airline companies, travel agencies, urban planners, lawyers, industrialists, deputy director generals, financial managers, architects, economists, engineers, accountants, land assessors, investment advisers, contractors, advertising agents, marketing consultants, owners of investment companies, professionals and key figures in the economy.

Those intending to participate in the Forum are requested to fill out the following form:

To: The Economic Forum,  
I plan to attend the dinner on Sunday, May 12, 1996 at 6:30 p.m.  
Registration fee - Forum members - NIS 120; guests - NIS 200.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Place of work \_\_\_\_\_ Position \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Home address \_\_\_\_\_  
Tel. (w) \_\_\_\_\_ Tel. (h) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_  
Enclosed is my check payable to The Economic Forum Only, 2 Shmuel Hanagid, Jerusalem 94592, POB 1369, Tel. 02-244789, Fax. 02-246888  
I will pay by credit card -  American Express  Isracard  Diners  Visa  
No. \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. date \_\_\_\_\_ I.D. No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature \_\_\_\_\_

ישראל 3000 | THE JERUSALEM POST | BANK HAPORAIM

2 Shmuel Hanagid, Jerusalem 94592, POB 1369, Tel. 02-244789, Fax. 02-246888



# BUSINESS & FINANCE

Monday, May 6, 1996

## Credit borrowing slows down in first quarter

Jerusalem Post Staff

GROWTH of credit borrowing during the first quarter slowed down to one percent in comparison with the previous quarter, after having registered an annual 12.4% growth pace last year compared with 1994, the Bank of Israel yesterday said.

The central bank did not specify the absolute figure for credit borrowing in the first quarter.

Overall credit to companies and households totaled NIS 208 billion last year. Since 1990, the combined total credit borrowed locally and abroad has expanded by 69% in real terms, while gross domestic product rose 40% and the business product 50%.

The share of non-indexed credit has risen since the beginning of the decade from 31% to 35% of

all credit borrowed. The central bank emphasized that at the time of the stock-market peak in 1992-93, non-indexed credit totaled 41% of loans extended by the banking sector.

Forex-indexed and foreign-currency loans were 29% of overall credit, slightly higher than its share six years ago, after having already fallen to 22% in 1993.

Cost-of-living-indexed loans have declined since the beginning of the decade from 41% to 37%, but these still remain the leading form of credit here, the Bank of Israel said.

Government-extended credit to various business sectors has been drastically reduced since 1990, from 40% of total credit extended to only 7.5% last year.

## Sanctions threaten delay in UMB offering

### Bank's European road show postponed

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

UNITED Mizrahi Bank's public offering will be postponed unless the bank's workers agree to cease sanctions by the end of the month, yesterday said Meir Yacobson, general manager of MI Holdings, the government's privatization agency, said yesterday.

Issuing shares of a striking bank would be impossible, he explained.

The government's original intention was to issue 20 percent of UMB's shares to investors here and abroad next month, with 60% of the shares in the issue allocated to European institutional investors.

However, a delegation of UMB representatives who were scheduled to embark on a road show yesterday to promote the share issue before institutional investors in London, Scotland and Switzerland decided to temporarily postpone the trip as a result of the escalation in UMB's work

sanctions.

The delegation included UMB general manager Victor Medina, underwriters of the issue, and Yacobson.

"We will still be able to go ahead with the offering if the workers' sanctions are stopped by the end of the month," said Yacobson, adding that the ongoing sanctions are harming the success of the issue.

Meanwhile, UMB workers plan to continue their work sanctions this week to protest against management's decision to fire more than 200 UMB workers as part of the bank's reorganization plan.

"I am not an arbitrator for work disputes, but there is a workers' dispute which must be resolved," Yacobson said.

"Last Thursday I asked both sides [workers and management]

to hold their horses. I asked management not to fire anyone until the end of the month and asked the workers to cease sanctions. But the workers committee gave a negative response."

Sara Leiserovitz, head of UMB's workers committee, said in response that every two days, various bank divisions and branches will be shut by the workers.

"The share issue does not concern us," Leiserovitz said. "Management knew the bank was scheduled to be issued a long time ago, but despite this did not try to resolve the problems. We will not postpone the sanctions. We are in the midst of a battle, and as long as management refuses to negotiate with us we will continue to fight."

Today 150 UMB branch managers will gather to hear Medina's and Leiserovitz's sides in the ongoing dispute.

## BUSINESS BRIEF

Representative here to discuss new traffic light system: Representatives of an Australian subsidiary of Dutch-based electronics manufacturer Philips are scheduled to meet today with officials from the Jerusalem, Tel Aviv and Haifa municipalities and the ministry of transport to discuss the company's offer to upgrade Israel's traffic light systems.

Jennifer Friedlin

## IDB Holding, IDB Development report rise in net profits

COMPANY RESULTS  
Jerusalem Post Staff

IDB HOLDING and IDB Development yesterday reported a sharp rise in net profits for 1995.

IDB Holding's net profits rose 118 percent to NIS 119 million from NIS 43m. in 1994. Net return on equity on an annual basis rose to 5.2% from 1.8%.

Net profits for the fourth quarter rose to NIS 37m. from NIS 8m.

Key factors contributing to last year's rise in earnings included capital gains of NIS 14m. from the sale of investments.

IDB Holding has a 71% share in IDB Development, which completed the year with a rise in net profit to NIS 162m. from NIS 85m. in 1994.

Net return on equity on an annual basis rose to 6.3% in 1995 from 3.3%.

Fourth quarter net profits increased to NIS 48m. from NIS 11m. in the corresponding period in 1994.

## AIG, Aurec sign joint-venture deal

GALIT LIPKIS-BECK

US-BASED insurance conglomerate American International Group (AIG) and the Aurec telecom and media group have signed a joint-venture agreement to form an insurance company here, the companies announced yesterday.

The deal signals the first time a major non-Israeli insurer will engage in direct distribution of insurance products here.

Other companies, including Blue Cross and Blue Shield, are expected to follow in AIG's footsteps.

Activities of other foreign firms present in the local insurance market are primarily confined to re-insurance.

The new company, to be named Golden AIG-Direct Insurance,

will focus on direct distribution of property and casualty insurance products, particularly for the consumer and small-business markets.

"Israel is a growth market for insurance and financial services, and Aurec brings strong distribution capabilities and in-depth understanding of the Israeli market," said AIG executive vice president Evan Greenberg.

Once licensed and operating, the new company will become "a significant link in AIG's global insurance network," he said.

AIG, a world leader in its field, is among the largest commercial and industrial insurance under-

writers in the US.

The firm - whose stocks are traded in New York's, London's, Tokyo's, Paris's and Zurich's equity markets - has a market value of \$43.9 billion, apparently the highest in the world for any insurance conglomerate.

The Ramat-Gan based Aurec group is jointly owned by the Morris Kahn group and US-based SBC Communications.

Insurance-industry sources see in AIG's arrival a reflection of the recently accelerating participation on the part of foreign firms in Tel Aviv's financial-services industry.

Israel's insurance market is believed to be the largest in the Middle East, with an annual total premium turnover of some \$5b.

## Tourism in North suffers NIS 12m. in damages

HAIM SHAPIRO

TOURISM enterprises along the northern confrontation line have suffered some NIS 12 million in lost business, according to Upper Galilee Tourism Board manager Moshe Atia.

Others in the area noted that although Israelis have been quick to return, it will take more time for foreigners to start coming.

"Before Grapes of Wrath, we had [reservations for] 80-percent occupancy for May, [but] now it has dropped to 50% and we're not sure if those people will show up," Dubi Benari, manager of the

guest house at Kfar Blum, told tourism reporters.

Already, he said, the guest house is full on weekends, when most of the guests are Israelis. The foreign groups - which constitute the midweek clientele - are also returning, but more slowly.

"If we can recoup June, it will be a good year," Benari said.

The Income Tax Commission announced yesterday that compensation to owners of 558 rooms offering rural lodging would

come to about NIS 800,000. The criteria for final compensation to the hoteliers is still being worked out, he said.

However, the question of compensation for lost business is a complex one, and not everyone who suffered as a result of the tension can expect to be compensated.

Atia pointed out that tourism enterprises which were technical- ly south of the confrontation line also remained empty during the

campaign, but no one is even talking about compensating them.

Hotels elsewhere in the country also suffered as a result of the tension in the North and the terror attacks in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv, according to Hotel Association director Avi Rosental.

He said 1996 had started as a record year, with January and February showing 27% more tourists stays. He said he feared that potential tourists who made their plans in March and April would not be coming this summer.

## Gov't: All citrus to Italy OK

JENNIFER FRIEDLIN

NO poisoned crates of Jaffa grapefruits exported to Italy have been found, despite threats by a group there to do so, Agriculture Ministry spokesman Ronny

Hassid said yesterday.

On April 30, the police in Genoa received a letter from an unidentified group threatening to poison Jaffa grapefruits to demonstrate its opposition to Operation Grapes of Wrath.

"Because of the cynical arrogance of the Israeli government, many [of Israel's] products have been poisoned," the letter from the group said.

Since receiving the letter, the Italian authorities said they have not found poisoned samples from any of the 100,000 crates of grapefruits Italy recently received from Israel.

Hassid said Israel is also investigating the matter. The threats, which are believed to be the work of an Arab fundamentalist group operating in Italy, have the potential to do great damage to Israeli citrus exports, he said.

## Judaica exports up 30%

JENNIFER FRIEDLIN

JUDAICA-RELATED exports have increased 30 percent to \$65 million from some \$50m. over the past two years, said Zev Birger, director of the Jerusalem International Judaica Fair taking place at the Jerusalem International Convention Center (JICC) from May 5-9.

"Ten years ago this was a home industry with very few, small enterprises," said Birger, adding that international sales now total more than \$100m. annually. "It has now become a flourishing industry with a great number of designers that dedicate time to the production of Judaica."

Participating in the sixth annual fair are 170 Judaica manufacturers, 40 of whom have come from abroad. The fair will feature an array of arts and crafts - including ceramics, glasswork, jewelry, paintings and, for the first time, a multi-media display of Judaica videos and CDs.

# Prudential Securities Incorporated

One New York Plaza  
New York, N.Y. 10292-2018, U.S.A.



Prudential Securities and Y.L.R. Capital Markets are pleased to announce their alliance agreement

## Y.L.R. Capital Markets

'YAHALOM' Tower 3A Jabotinsky St. Ramat-Gan, Israel, 52520  
Tel: 03-6134242, Fax: 03-6134243



The Israel Corporation Group

Opting for a bull's eye, every time? Let us handle your portfolio.



Portfolio Management Co. Ltd.  
A Member Of Israel Discount Bank Group.  
JERUSALEM TELEPHONE: 03-6130111 FROM 8 AM TO 7 PM.

For current information on securities in Israel and the U.S., including high-yielding U.S. government-backed debentures, call:

M.H. MEYERSON & CO., INC. *Founded 1940*  
A Publicly Traded Company  
NASDAQ Symbol: MEHYNY  
Brokers & Dealers in Securities  
30 Montgomery Street  
Jersey City, New Jersey 07302, USA  
Corporate & Institutional Inquiries:  
Jeffrey E. Meyerson, V.P.  
International Banking Division  
1-201-333-3313  
Fax: 1-201-333-1263  
Retail Customer Inquiries:  
Eric J. Logan, V.P.  
National Sales Manager  
1-201-333-4901 • 1-800-828-8118  
Fax: 1-201-434-1008  
Our specially trained sales personnel will be available to discuss your investment needs.

ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS				
Patah (foreign currency deposit rates) (25.4.96)				
Currency (deposit term)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS	
U.S. dollar (\$250,000)	4.025	4.025	5.000	
French franc (FF100,000)	4.125	4.250	4.500	
German mark (DM 200,000)	1.750	1.750	2.000	
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	0.575	0.575	0.625	
Yen (10 million yen)				

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (3.5.96)					
Currency basket	CHECKS AND TRANSFERS		BANKNOTES		Rep. Rates**
	Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell	
U.S. dollar	2.1893	2.2578	3.15	3.20	3.2894
German mark	2.0845	2.1188	2.04	2.15	2.1433
French franc	0.0185	0.0205	0.60	0.64	0.6218
Japanese yen (100)	3.0000	3.0000	2.89	3.15	3.0789
Dutch guilder	1.2885	1.2820	1.20	1.25	1.2827
Swedish krona	0.4848	0.4721	0.45	0.48	0.4880
Norwegian krona	0.4948	0.4827	0.47	0.50	0.4882
Denish krona	0.5407	0.5485	0.53	0.56	0.5454
Finnish mark	0.0028	0.0030	0.05	0.08	0.0882
Canadian dollar	0.5570	0.5747	0.55	0.58	0.5882
Australian dollar	2.8930	2.9736	2.89	2.41	2.3574
S. African rand	0.7279	0.7387	0.68	0.74	0.7546
Belgian franc (10)	1.0159	1.0203	2.91	3.08	0.7940
Austrian schilling (10)	2.9533	3.0111	0.98	1.05	1.0228
Italian lire (1000)	3.0030	2.0076	2.00	2.10	2.0884
Jordanian dinar			0.80	1.10	0.9527
Egyptian pound			4.43	4.74	4.6121
ECU	3.9107	3.9736	0.90	0.95	0.9383
Irish punt	4.0549	4.0346	0.90	0.95	0.9460
Spanish peseta (100)	2.4932	2.5325	4.96	5.11	5.0010
			2.45	2.58	2.5159

\* These rates vary according to bank. \*\* Bank of Israel.  
SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

<p><b>PRIME</b> <b>דו"ר</b> Mutual Fund for Foreign Residents</p> <p>Date: 2.5.96 Purchase Price: 108.41 Redemption Price: 107.76</p> <p>למנוח פילא מ-9 תשנ"ו</p>	<p><b>PRIME</b> <b>דו"ר</b> Mutual Fund for Foreign Residents</p> <p>Date: 2.5.96 Purchase Price: 148.45 Redemption Price: 147.44</p> <p>למנוח פילא מ-9 תשנ"ו</p>
---	---

Just published!

We represent in Israel & abroad 1996

Classified directory of Israeli companies that represent international firms, and distribute their products. 170 pages, deluxe binding. Available at Steimatzky's

למנוח פילא



Key Representative Rates

US Dollar	NIS 3.2140
Sterling	NIS 4.8290
Mark	NIS 2.1033

### Precious metals futures close mixed

#### COMMODITIES ROUNDUP

PRECIOUS metals markets in New York showed a mixed reaction to Friday's US unemployment data, and futures closed mixed in a very choppy session which saw strong price movements.

Silver took the lead on Friday morning, giving up some of its gains to a movement in soybeans, but still managed to close higher with gold following behind but closed lower.

June gold closed \$1.60 lower at \$394.10. July silver closed 5.0 cents higher at \$5.470.

July platinum closed \$0.20 lower at \$407.60 and palladium closed 20 cents lower at \$136.05.

High-grade copper futures closed sharply higher on Friday after a squeeze play on the London Metals Exchange forced up the price of copper.

Buy stops on COMEX also were triggered and that helped boost the July contract in early trading. Analysts saw no reaction in the copper market to the US jobs data.

July high-grade copper futures closed up 215 basis points at \$1.2200.

Grain futures closed mixed on Friday, with spread activity noted amid thin trading conditions.

Wheat futures closed mostly higher, with only the July and September contracts ending weaker. Corn futures closed mixed, with the front-month contracts lower and the deferred firmer.

May corn settled 53/4 cents lower at \$4.71 per bushel, and May wheat settled 1/2 cents higher at \$6.22 per bushel.

Soy complex futures closed mixed amid thin trading conditions, sources said. Soybeans and meal settled mostly higher, while oil closed mostly weaker. Trading was mostly technical in nature.

The market had no real fundamental news to support soybean prices. Traders are, however, keeping an eye on the wet weather in eastern and southern portions of the Corn Belt.

At the close, May soybeans were 53/4 cents higher at \$8.0812.

NYCE July cotton futures settled higher on Friday after a late rally to new session highs.

July ranged between the early low of 85.55 cents and the late high of 86.90 cents before settling 31 points higher at 86.14 cents.

The spot May settled 94 points lower at 84.85 cents.

World sugar futures settled higher after an extremely subdued session that saw only light trade in an inside range.

The July contract settled 11 points higher at 10.51 cents. The balance of contracts settled 2 to 4 points higher.

July coffee futures settled slightly higher on the day in light trading after an early rally.

After heavy trading during the week, players were reluctant to take weekend positions, analysts said. The July futures closed up 25 points at \$1.2755.

Courtesy of Michael Zwebner, Comstock Trading Ltd.

### Pakistan rethinking telecom sale

ISLAMABAD (Reuters) - Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto said over the weekend Pakistan was reconsidering whether to go ahead with the search for a strategic investor in its state-run telecom utility in current market conditions.

She said no decision had been taken on whether to proceed now with the sale of a 26-percent stake in Pakistan Telecommunication Company Ltd (PTCL).

"I think that in privatizing the PTCL we have to see what other events are taking place in the global marketplace," she said, adding that plans for the privatization coincided with sales of three other big telecom firms elsewhere.

"The Privatization Commission is having second thoughts of going into the market at the same time as these three other major telecommunications privatizations, with the belief that if the market was flooded with such offers the response would not be adequate," she said.

# IBM, Apple to unveil today Mac-production licensing pact

NEW YORK (Reuters) - International Business Machines Corp. and Apple Computer Inc. said over the weekend they will hold a conference call today to announce the much-anticipated licensing by IBM's Microelectronics unit of the Macintosh operating system.

An Apple spokeswoman in Cupertino, California, said the companies will be announcing a licensing deal, but she declined to give any further details.

An IBM spokesman declined to comment.

Sources and analysts said IBM was hoping to provide "one-stop shopping" for customers who wish to develop either the core Mac motherboards - the main circuit board - or Macintosh compatible computers.

IBM will not be developing Macintosh clones itself. But its Microelectronics division is one of the few manufacturers of PowerPC processors, the chips that were developed in a ground-breaking agreement five years ago between IBM, Apple and Motorola Inc. to challenge the

domination of Microsoft Corp. and Intel Corp. in the personal computer industry.

Analysts said IBM hopes to further fuel sales of the PowerPC chips, and the deal is designed to encourage more companies to develop Macintosh motherboards and clones.

IBM will have the rights to sublicense the Mac OS to others.

In February, shortly after its new Chief Executive Gil Amelio took over the company, Apple signed a similar pact with Motorola, giving Motorola the

right to sublicense the Mac operating system to others.

"IBM, Apple and Motorola are becoming much more aggressive in the issue of trying to propagate the PowerPC platform," said Tim Bajarin, president of Creative Strategies in San Jose, Calif.

Bajarin speculated that IBM and Apple were trying to make it as easy as possible for motherboard makers, particularly those located in Taiwan, to make motherboards to resell to computer makers who want to manufacture Mac clones.

# EU energy ministers meet tomorrow on electricity liberalization

## Unions challenge plans to sell 25% of EU power market

BRUSSELS (Reuters) - European Union energy ministers, anxious to end years of wrangling, try again tomorrow to end a stalemate on the politically sensitive issue of liberalizing the 15-nation bloc's huge electricity markets.

EU members still hold widely differing views on the scope and speed of what needs to be done, but there are new signs of optimism that a deal leading to gradual liberalization may at last be in sight.

"There is a huge political will to succeed," a source at the European Commission, the EU's executive, said over the weekend.

But officials and diplomats forecast tomorrow's negotiations would be difficult and the outcome uncertain.

With memories of last December's public sector strikes still fresh, France is particularly likely to tread carefully in order to avoid provoking unions at the giant state monopoly Electricite de France (EDF).

The EU's Italian presidency, which holds to rotating honor until the end of June, has worked hard to bridge a gap between France, which is wary of any broad liberalization, and

Germany, which was a far-reaching deal.

The Commission has set the ministerial session as a deadline for reaching a common position on its draft directive.

If this does not materialize tomorrow, Energy Commissioner Christos Papanicolas has said the dossier would be referred to the next EU summit on June 21 and 22 in Florence, Italy. "I think there is a lot of pressure for something to come out of the May 7 meeting," said analyst Ben Hollins at British energy consultancy Wood Mackenzie.

In the EU's efforts to create an internal market, energy still lags the field. Energy-intensive European industries hope a deal will help achieve lower electricity prices and boost their ability to compete on international markets.

But any deal would initially only require partial liberalization of national markets, allowing mainly large industrial firms a free choice of the most efficient supplier.

Most member states now appear willing to accept an Italian model on how to calculate the extent of liberalization, basing this on the EU market share of big consumers.

It would then be up to the member states to decide how to achieve this minimum level of market opening, including the contentious issue of whether distributors would be included. But there is still disagreement on the figures and how to continue the liberalization process in the years ahead, setting the stage for lengthy and heated discussions tomorrow.

Under the Italian compromise, there would be an overall initial market opening of around 25 percent. This would increase to roughly 30% in the next nine years. But the European Commission and Germany say this is not fast enough, while France and Ireland have been skeptical of automatic further liberalization.

Paris worries that a wide market opening would hurt universal service, the principle that electricity should be available to all consumers at an affordable price.

But Bonn is concerned that EDF could take advantage of a more liberalized market in Germany, while access to the French market would remain more restricted.

"It can't be a one-way street pointing towards Germany," a German official said.

# German private phone firms mull suing government

HAMBURG (Reuters) - Germany's private telecoms operators are considering suing the government if it fails in the coming months to set the legal framework for planned deregulation of the telephone market in 1998, Der Spiegel magazine reported.

The damage claim would run to millions of marks, the report said, citing VTM Association of Private Telecommunications head Gerd Eickers.

The VTM includes the telecoms units of industrial groups Veba AG, RWE AG, Thyssen AG and Mannesmann AG, which are investing billions of marks in

preparation for deregulation on January 1, 1998.

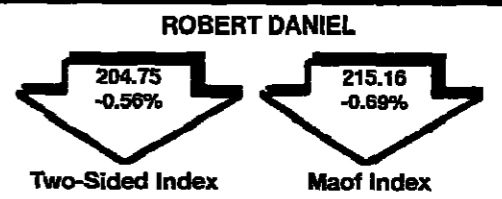
The Bonn government wants the telecommunications bill setting out the legal framework for competition to come into force in mid-1996. But it remains at odds with the federal states, or Laender, over whether cities and

municipalities should be allowed to charge fees for the use of telephone lines in future.

Spiegel also said the VTM planned to demand a government review of the reform of telephone charges which state telecommunications firm Deutsche Telekom introduced at the start of 1996.

# Shares fall on fear of rate hike

## TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET



STOCKS fell yesterday on concern that the central bank might lift interest rates to fight inflation, boosting companies' borrowing costs and potentially damping profits.

"We have a cloud of interest rates; they are very high now," said Yaron Pitaru, head of research at Ofek securities in Tel Aviv. "I am not sure they will drop."

The Two-Sided Index dropped 0.56 percent to 204.75, while the Maof Index slipped 0.69% to 215.16.

Across the exchange, NIS 52 million worth of shares traded, 30% less than last month's average of NIS 74m. Five issues fell for every four that rose.

The most active stock today was holding company Elbit Ltd., up 1.5% on NIS 2.7m. Worth of shares traded.

Investors are optimistic about Elbit's plan, announced in December, to divide itself into

three publicly traded entities, separating its medical, defense and commercial businesses, Pitaru said.

Elbit shares traded in New York have risen 32% in the past 10 weeks and 12% in the past two weeks.

With the breakup, investors can more easily assess Elbit's businesses and invest accordingly, analysts said. Right now, Pitaru said, "the good companies are hidden behind the bad companies."

Elron Electronic Industries Ltd., which holds 40% of Elbit, advanced 1.75%.

Expectations for the Consumer Price Index in April range from 1.2% to 1.5%, Pitaru said.

Israel's central bank raised the rate at which it lends to banks 0.8 percentage points to 14%. As an inflation-fighting measure, it has conditioned interest-rate cuts on the government reducing the gap between public spending and income. (Bloomberg)

# N. Korea assembles TVs for first time

SEOUL (Reuters) - The expected arrival in South Korea next week of the first-ever electronics goods assembled in the communist North is another example of expanding economic ties, South Korean officials said over the weekend.

LG International said over the weekend that 250 50-centimeter color television sets would arrive at the South Korean port of Incheon next week from a factory near the North Korean capital of Pyongyang.

It will be the first shipment of electronics products from the impoverished North. Some light industrial goods, such as clothing and bags, have been delivered in the past.

"This is another step in a gradual move toward the expansion of economic ties," said an official from South Korea's Unification Ministry.

A spokesman at LG International, a trading arm of LG Group, said the televisions were produced using components from LG Electronics.

"We plan to produce 20,000 color TVs in North Korea this year and expand output to 40,000 units next year," he said.

The news follows close on the heels of an announcement this week of the first-ever joint venture between a North and South Korean company.

Daewoo Corp, a trading arm of the Daewoo Group, said on Wednesday it had established a \$10.5 million joint venture with

North Korea's Samcholl'i Corp to make shirts, bags and jackets.

The venture was one of 10 approved earlier by the Unification Ministry.

"[If the government approval of North-South joint ventures] is of symbolic importance for every company that wants to work with the North," said Paul Pheby, executive vice president of Dongbang Peregrine Securities.

But analysts said investments of this size were a drop in the bucket to South Korea's mammoth business groups, giving credence to arguments that the ventures are being driven primarily by political, not business, concerns.

Seoul has been trying to induce Pyongyang to accept a proposal unveiled last month by President Kim Young-sam and US President Bill Clinton for four-way talks, including China, on a peace agreement for the Korean Peninsula.

The two countries fought a war in 1950-53 that ended in a truce instead of a peace pact. Pyongyang has since rejected the validity of the pact and recently violated the border buffer zone between the two countries with three troop incursions.

Even Seoul officials acknowledge the joint venture approvals have political overtones.

"We are trying to show more sincere attitude towards the foundation peace talks," the Unification Ministry spokesman said.

# China gold output up 13.5%, but problems persist

BEIJING (Reuters) - China's gold output rose 13.5 percent in the first quarter of 1996, but officials said inefficiency and failure to attract foreign investment were preventing more rapid growth.

"Judging from the first quarter's situation, it's basically assured that the gold sector will fulfill this year's target and likely will continue to increase on the basis of last year," Ai Dacheng, deputy director of the Gold Bureau, told China Daily Business Weekly.

"But it's difficult to see a big jump from last year," he expected a small increase over the 1995 figure.

Production of gold, a state secret until the end of last year, was 21.2 tonnes in the first quarter, 13.5% more than a year earlier, he said.

That accounted for 23% of the 1996 state target of 92-95 tonnes and was well above the 17%-18% usually produced in the first quarter, a figure influenced by cold weather and equipment repair, Ai said.

He described output as "good," with many mines reporting growth despite drought in central Henan and Shaanxi provinces and power shortages in Heilongjiang, Jilin and Liaoning in the north-east.

In 1995, China produced 108 tonnes of gold, surpassing 100 tonnes for the first time, officials have said.

However, problems still hampered output, Ai said.

Gold mines had rushed to boost production in the first three months of this year, fearing they would lose their exemption from value-added tax.

The government announced in March that mines would retain their exemption until 2000, but the first quarter rush to produce would affect future potential, Ai said.

Another problem mines faced was that loans to upgrade infrastructure and technical capability had been either late or only partial since 1995, Ai said.

Among the most serious problems was persistent inefficiency, Ai said, warning the industry to adapt to a market economy.

China's gold mines had traditionally followed the central planning system, turning to the state for help rather than trying to solve their own difficulties, he said.

Gold mine managers should learn about market competition and be ready for complete integration with the international market, Ai said.

More than 200 major gold enterprises had reduced their cost growth rate in 1995 to about 8.0% from the previous 20%, he said.

However, China needed to do more to attract foreign investors, he said, adding that although the gold sector had been opened to overseas investors, no foreign-funded gold projects had been implemented.

Specific policies were needed to nurture foreign investors, he said.

Industry analysts say foreign investors have been reluctant to enter China, since the only mines opened to overseas investment have a low gold content or have been largely exploited, leaving only the hardest-to-extract content.

Better-located, richer mines remain a domestic monopoly.

Multi-sided trading				Two-sided trading			
Name	Price	% Change	Volume	Name	Price	% Change	Volume
Commercial				Afternoon			
Bank	139.45	-0.5		Electric	486	-0.5	54000
Bank Leasing	139.45	-0.5		Electric	486	-0.5	54000
Bank of Israel	139.45	-0.5		Electric	486	-0.5	54000
Bank of Jerusalem	139.45	-0.5		Electric	486	-0.5	54000
Bank of Lehi	139.45	-0.5		Electric	486	-0.5	54000
Bank of Mizrahi	139.45	-0.5		Electric	486	-0.5	54000
Bank of Sephardim	139.45	-0.5		Electric	486	-0.5	54000
Bank of Tel Aviv	139.45	-0.5		Electric	486	-0.5	54000
Bank of Yehuda	139.45	-0.5		Electric	486	-0.5	54000
Bank of Zehava	139.45	-0.5		Electric	486	-0.5	54000
Bank of Eretz	139.45	-0.5		Electric	486	-0.5	54000
Bank of Golan	139.45	-0.5		Electric	486	-0.5	54000
Bank of Naftali	139.45	-0.5		Electric	486	-0.5	54000
Bank of Shimon	139.45	-0.5		Electric	486	-0.5	54000
Bank of Yehuda	139.45	-0.5		Electric	486	-0.5	54000
Bank of Zehava	139.45	-0.5		Electric	486	-0.5	54000
Bank of Eretz	139.45	-0.5		Electric	486	-0.5	54000
Bank of Golan	139.45	-0.5		Electric	486	-0.5	54000
Bank of Naftali	139.45	-0.5		Electric	486	-0.5	54000
Bank of Shimon	139.45	-0.5		Electric	486	-0.5	54000
Bank of Yehuda	139.45	-0.5		Electric	486	-0.5	54000
Bank of Zehava	139.45	-0.5		Electric	486	-0.5	54000
Bank of Eretz	139.45	-0.5		Electric	486	-0.5	54000
Bank of Golan	139.45	-0.5		Electric	486	-0.5	54000
Bank of Naftali	139.45	-0.5		Electric	486	-0.5	54000
Bank of Shimon	139.45	-0.5		Electric	486	-0.5	54000
Bank of Yehuda	139.45	-0.5		Electric	486	-0.5	54000
Bank of Zehava	139.45	-0.5		Electric	486	-0.5	54000
Bank of Eretz	139.45	-0.5		Electric	486	-0.5	54000
Bank of Golan	139.45	-0.5		Electric	486	-0.5	54000
Bank of Naftali	139.45	-0.5		Electric	486	-0.5	54000
Bank of Shimon	139.45	-0.5		Electric	486	-0.5	54000
Bank of Yehuda	139.45	-0.5		Electric	486	-0.5	54000
Bank of Zehava	139.45	-0.5		Electric	486	-0.5	54000
Bank of Eretz	139.45	-0.5		Electric	486	-0.5	54000
Bank of Golan	139.45	-0.5		Electric	486	-0.5	54000
Bank of Naftali	139.45	-0.5		Electric	486	-0.5	54000
Bank of Shimon	139.45	-0.5		Electric	486	-0.5	54000
Bank of Yehuda	139.45	-0.5		Electric	486	-0.5	54000
Bank of Zehava	139.45	-0.5		Electric	486	-0.5	54000
Bank of Eretz	139.45	-0.5		Electric	486	-0.5	54000
Bank of Golan	139.45	-0.5		Electric	486	-0.5	54000
Bank of Naftali	139.45	-0.5		Electric	486	-0.5	54000
Bank of Shimon	139.45	-0.5		Electric	486	-0.5	54000
Bank of Yehuda	139.45	-0.5		Electric	486	-0.5	54000
Bank of Zehava	139.45	-0.5		Electric	486	-0.5	54000
Bank of Eretz	139.45	-0.5		Electric	486	-0.5	54000
Bank of Golan	139.45	-0.5		Electric	486	-0.5	54000
Bank of Naftali	139.45	-0.5		Electric	486	-0.5	54000
Bank of Shimon	139.45	-0.5		Electric	486	-0.5	54000
Bank of Yehuda	139.45	-0.5					



# Man. Utd. wins English league title

LONDON (Reuters) - Manchester United crushed Middlesbrough 3-0 yesterday to win the English soccer league title in style after their only rivals Newcastle United were held to a 1-1 home draw by Tottenham.

Goals from David May, his first of the season, former Newcastle hero Andy Cole, and Ryan Giggs gave Manchester United the title for the third time in four years and the 10th time in their history after one of the closest and most thrilling championship races of recent times.

It also kept alive their hopes of winning an unprecedented second English league and cup double as they face Liverpool in the FA Cup final next Saturday.

Newcastle, which led the championship race by 12 points in January, had to beat Tottenham yesterday and hope that Alex Ferguson's team lost at Middlesbrough, to win the title for the first time for 69 years.

But they fell behind to a Jason Dozzell goal after 54 minutes and although Les Ferdinand equalized in the 71st minute, Newcastle was chasing a lost cause.

Manchester United raced into a 15th minute lead at Middlesbrough, managed by former United stalwart Bryan Robson, when May headed home.

Cole, who has had such an indifferent season, made it 2-0 with an overhead flick after 54 minutes soon after coming on as substitute.

Giggs clinched the victory with a rasping 20-meter shot nine minutes before the end.

While there was ecstasy for the red half of Manchester there was nothing but gloom at Maine Road after Manchester City was relegated on goal difference, despite

fighting back from two goals down to draw 2-2 with Liverpool.

Liverpool took the lead when Steve Lomas put through his own net after only six minutes and went 2-0 ahead with a stunning shot from Ian Rush, scoring his 229th and last league goal for Liverpool before leaving the club after 15 years at the end of the season.

City came back with a 71st minute penalty from Uwe Rosler and a 78th minute equalizer from Kit Symons, but results elsewhere forced them to drop out of the top division for the first time since 1989.

Sheffield Wednesday, Coventry and Southampton, which could all have been relegated, were saved by City's result. Wednesday finished on 40 points with Coventry, Southampton and Manchester City all on 38, meaning City went down on goal difference.

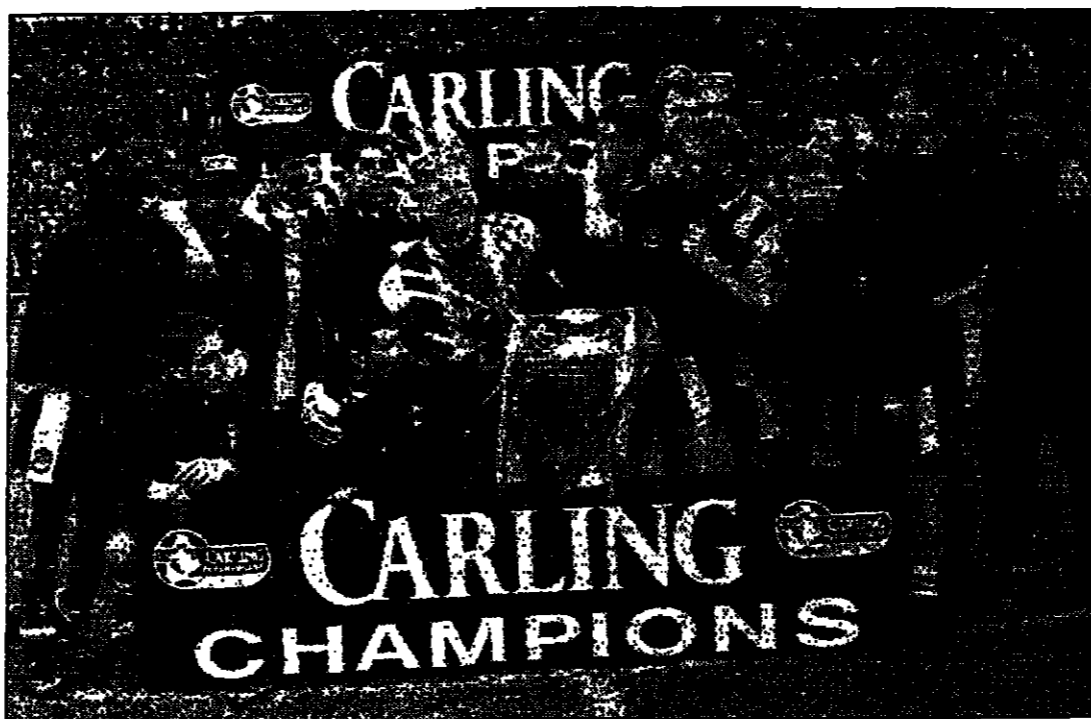
Coventry, never relegated since the team went up to the old First Division in 1967, survived after a 0-0 draw at home against Leeds.

Southampton stayed up after drawing 0-0 with Wimbledon and Sheffield Wednesday remains in the top flight after a 1-1 draw at West Ham.

City goes down with already-relegated Queens Park Rangers and Bolton which ended the season with a 3-0 defeat at Nottingham Forest and a 2-1 loss at Arsenal respectively.

Arsenal's win - thanks to two goals in the last eight minutes from David Platt and Dennis Bergkamp - mean the team pips Everton. Blackburn and Tottenham for a place in next season's UEFA Cup.

Manchester United manager Alex Ferguson, who led United to the double two years ago said



WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS - Manchester United celebrates after winning the Premiership trophy yesterday.

afterwards: "It's always great to win the league. We took a long time to do it. The players were marvelous."

**YESTERDAY'S RESULTS:**  
Premier League: Arsenal 2, Bolton 1; Chelsea 2, Blackburn 3; Coventry 0, Leeds 0; Everton 1, Aston Villa 0; Manchester City 2, Liverpool 2; Middlesbrough 0, Manchester United 3; Newcastle 1, Tottenham 1; Nottingham Forest 3, Queens Park Rangers 0; Southampton 0, Wimbledon 0; West Ham 1, Sheffield Wednesday 1.

**Division One:** Birmingham 1, Reading 2; Charlton 1, Wolves 1; Crystal Palace 0, Norwich 1; Huddersfield 0, Portsmouth 1; Ipswich 0, Millwall 0; Oldham 1, Luton 0; Stoke 1, Southend 0; Tranmere 2, Sunderland 0; Watford 0, Leicester 1; West Bromwich Albion 3, Derby 2.

**Premier League (final standings)**

GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts	
Manchester United	38	25	7	6	73	35	82
Chelsea	38	24	8	8	66	37	78
Liverpool	38	20	11	7	70	34	71
Aston Villa	38	19	9	11	52	36	68
Arsenal	38	17	12	9	49	32	63
Everton	38	17	10	11	64	44	61
Blackburn	38	18	7	13	61	47	61
Tottenham	38	16	13	9	59	38	61
Not. Forest	38	15	13	10	50	54	59
West Ham	38	14	9	15	43	52	51
Coventry	38	12	14	12	46	44	50
Middlesbrough	38	11	10	17	35	43	43
Leeds	38	12	7	19	40	57	43
Wimbledon	38	10	11	17	55	70	41
Sheff. Wed.	38	10	10	18	49	61	40
Coventry	38	8	14	16	42	61	38
Southampton	38	9	11	18	34	52	38
Man. City	38	9	11	18	38	58	38
QPR	38	8	8	22	38	57	33
Bolton	38	8	5	25	39	71	29

**Division One (final standings)**

GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts	
Sheff. Wed.	46	22	17	7	59	33	63
Crystal Pal.	46	21	18	9	71	61	73
Crystal Pal.	46	20	15	11	57	48	75
Ipswich	46	20	13	13	60	49	73
Leeds	46	19	14	13	66	60	71
Charlton	46	17	20	9	57	45	61
Ipswich	46	19	12	15	79	69	69
Huddersfield	46	17	12	17	61	58	63
Sheff. United	46	18	14	14	57	54	62
Barnley	46	14	14	18	60	69	60
West Brom	46	18	12	16	60	68	60
Port Vale	46	15	16	15	69	69	60
Tranmere	46	14	17	15	64	69	59
Southend	46	15	14	17	62	61	59
Birmingham	46	15	13	18	61	64	58
Norwich	46	14	14	18	59	67	57
Ormskirk	46	14	14	18	55	66	56
Oldham	46	14	14	18	50	56	56
Reading	46	13	17	16	64	66	56
Walsingham	46	13	16	17	58	62	55
Portsmouth	46	13	13	20	61	69	62
Millwall	46	13	13	20	63	62	52
Watford	46	10	12	24	62	70	48
Luton	46	11	12	23	40	64	45

# Miller return fails to save Pacers

INDIANAPOLIS - Reggie Miller returned, and everything went right for the Indiana Pacers - until the final shot.

Miller, sidelined since April 13 with a fractured eye socket, made a surprising comeback yesterday and had another spectacular fourth quarter. But he missed the game-winning shot at the final buzzer and the Pacers lost 89-87 to the Atlanta Hawks.

Atlanta won the best-of-5 series 3-2 and advanced to play Orlando in the second round.

Miller scored 16 of his 29 points in the fourth quarter, including Indiana's final eight. He got the ball in the final seconds but was double-teamed by Mookie Blaylock and Matt Bullard. Miller still managed to get off an off-balance 3-pointer; but it glanced off the side of the rim as time expired.

That gave the victory to Atlanta, which had lost to the Pacers in the playoffs the past two years. Indiana was ousted in the first round for the first time in three years in what may have been Miller's final game with the Pacers. He becomes an unrestricted free agent this summer.

SuperSonics 108, Rockets 75. The Seattle SuperSonics handed the defending NBA champion Houston Rockets their worst playoff defeat ever, storming to victory on Saturday in Game One of their Western Conference semifinal series.

Gary Payton scored 23 points and Sam Perkins keyed a pivotal run that bridged the third and fourth quarters as Seattle took a 1-0 lead in the best-of-seven series.

The Sonics held Houston center Hakeem Olajuwon to a career playoff low of six points on 3-of-9 shooting, and used a 23-4 streak to break open a five-point game in the third quarter.

Robert Horry had 18 points for the

Rockets, who managed just 31 points in the second half. Houston, winners of the last two NBA titles, shot just 32.5 percent (13-of-40) after the intermission.

"In the third quarter, we got a little impatient and a little sloppy," Rockets coach Rudy Tomjanovich said. "Let's just say the ball didn't go in the basket."

"The fast-breaking game came in and we was just like a dam breaking over and couldn't stop the water coming over us. We're going to have to regroup and understand what they're doing."

Shawn Kemp had 17 points and 12 rebounds as Seattle outrebounded Houston 52-36 on the way to their largest post-season margin of victory ever. Payton added seven assists for the Sonics, who made 25-of-45 shots in the second half.

The Sonics, tied with Houston 44-44 at the half, began their decisive burst leading 60-55 with 3:26 to go in the third quarter. Nate McMillan hit a three-pointer and Perkins added a basket. Kemp followed with a three-point play to make it 68-55.

Mario Elie hit a basket to snap the run but Perkins followed with another three-pointer for a 71-57 lead with 40 seconds left in the quarter. Clyde Drexler hit a 15-footer but Payton ended the period with a basket for a 73-59 lead.

Perkins and McMillan opened the final quarter with three pointers and Drexler Schrenpf added consecutive baskets for an 83-59 advantage with 8:38 remaining.

(AP, Reuters)

# Czech Republic beats Canada 4-2 for World Ice Hockey Championship title

VIENNA (AP) - Martin Prochazka broke a tie with 19 seconds left and Robert Lang added two goals as the Czech Republic beat Canada 4-2 yesterday to win its first gold in the world hockey championships since the country emerged three years ago from the split of the former Czechoslovakia.

Prochazka scored taking a pass from near the boards and rifled a shot past Canadian goaltender Curtis Joseph from the slot at 19:41 of the final period. Teammate Jiri Kucera scored into the empty net at 19:54 to complete the scoring.

"I don't recall the shot exactly, I just

tried to put in on the net," said Prochazka, who said he only knew the goal had gone in after the crowd of 10,000 people exploded - many of them Czech fans who had crossed the border just an hour's drive from the Austrian capital.

"It was the biggest goal of my hockey career and I'm not likely to get another one like it again," he added amid a dressing room hosed down with champagne.

The Czechs - six-time world champions as Czechoslovakia - last won gold in 1985 and have finished with five bronze medals since then - the last one being in 1993.

They hammered the United States 5-0 in the semifinals to advance and finished the tournament unbeaten with just one tie and seven victories. The only blemish was a 2-2 tie with Norway in pool play.

# CLASSIFIEDS

**RATES**  
PRICES ARE AS FOLLOWS - All rates include VAT:  
Single Weekday - NIS 99.45 for 10 words (minimum), each additional word NIS 9.94.  
FRIDAY AND HOLIDAY EVE - NIS 152.10 for 10 words (minimum), each additional word NIS 15.21.  
MONDAY, WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY (package) - NIS 234.00 for 10 words (minimum), each additional word NIS 23.40.  
WEEK RATE (6 insertions) - NIS 315.90 for 10 words (minimum), each additional word - NIS 31.59.  
FOUR FRIDAYS (package) - NIS 409.50 for 10 words (minimum), each additional word - NIS 40.95.  
MONTHLY (24 insertions) - NIS 643.50 for 10 words (minimum), each additional word - NIS 64.35.  
Rates are valid until 31.5.96.

**DEADLINES OFFICES:**  
Jerusalem - weekdays: 12 noon the day before publication; for Friday and Sunday: 6 p.m. on Thursday.  
Tel Aviv and Haifa - weekdays: 12 noon, 2 days before publication; for Friday and Sunday: 4 p.m., Thursday in Tel Aviv and 12 noon Thursday in Haifa.

**DWELLINGS**  
Sharon Area  
**SALES**  
HERZLIYA/RAMAT HASHARON, NEW luxury apartments sale/lease, pool, view. Tel. 052-749011.

**SERVICES**  
Tel Aviv  
**HEALTH**  
FOR HEALTHY BODY & a happy mind, have a professional massage or straitu. Tel. 03-5802326.

**AMERICAN FAMILY SEEKS** South African au pair, live-in, central Tel Aviv, \$750 + NIS 220 immediate bonus. Tel. 02-6211195, 652-452002-Jackie.

**Fired-up Lindros leads Flyers past Panthers**  
PHILADELPHIA (Reuters) - Eric Lindros, held without a shot in Game One, was on fire Saturday as he scored with 10:49 left to break a third-period tie and set up the other two goals in the Flyers' 3-2 win over the Florida Panthers.

**DWELLINGS**  
Tel Aviv  
**HOLIDAY RENTALS**  
LUXURIOUS, FULLY EQUIPPED, holiday apartments, quiet, near sea. Direct from owner. Tel/Fax: 03-528-8773.

**DWELLINGS**  
Tel Aviv  
**SALES**  
CAESAREA, LUXURIOUS HOUSE + pool + air conditioning and central vacuum cleaning. Tel. 050-231725, 06-363261.

**SERVICES**  
Tel Aviv  
**HOUSEHOLD HELP**  
CHILD CARE, HOUSEKEEPING, \$750, Sun., Mon., Wed. - Fri., 7:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Tel. 02-870881.

**HOUSEHOLD HELP**  
SHOHAM, METAPELET, END of May, 6 month old baby with 6 yr. old sister, great living arrangements. Flexible terms. Tel. 03-6423984.

**OFFICE STAFF**  
ENGLISH SPEAKING SECRETARY for U.S. brokerage firm. Knowledge of WORD. From 14:00-21:00 3-4 days a week. Tel. 02-647765 (N.S.)

**Eisenberg Jerusalem Open tennis tourney begins today**  
THE \$50,000 Eisenberg Jerusalem Open, Israel's second biggest tennis tournament, with players from 16 countries, begins today at the Israel Tennis Center in the capital.

**DWELLINGS**  
Jerusalem  
**HOLIDAY RENTALS**  
PLEASANT HOLIDAY APARTMENTS for rent in Jerusalem. Best location. Tel. 03-9662070, 03-9605012.

**DWELLINGS**  
Jerusalem  
**RENTALS**  
HABITAT REAL ESTATE, long term rentals, good areas, from \$750 to \$4,500. Tel. 02-611222.

**RENTALS**  
EXCLUSIVE! SAHALA 1,000 sq.m. plot, 160 sq.m. built, \$1,200,000. KAV HAYAM. Tel. 03-523-9988.

**RENTALS**  
EXCLUSIVE, QUIET NORTH Tel Aviv! Penthouse under construction, 200 sq. m. single level, + 46 m. on roof + room for au pair + swimming pool, \$1,650,000. "KAV HAYAM" Tel. 03-5239988.

**RENTALS**  
EXCLUSIVE, QUIET NORTH Tel Aviv! Penthouse under construction, 200 sq. m. single level, + 46 m. on roof + room for au pair + swimming pool, \$1,650,000. "KAV HAYAM" Tel. 03-5239988.

**HEATHER CHAIT**  
HOUSEKEEPING + CHILD CARE (5/1 live-in private room + TV, + telephone, Hebrew, full time + Friday + Word, immediate. Tel. 03-7519147.

**RENTALS**  
EXCLUSIVE! SAHALA 1,000 sq.m. plot, 160 sq.m. built, \$1,200,000. KAV HAYAM. Tel. 03-523-9988.

**RENTALS**  
EXCLUSIVE, QUIET NORTH Tel Aviv! Penthouse under construction, 200 sq. m. single level, + 46 m. on roof + room for au pair + swimming pool, \$1,650,000. "KAV HAYAM" Tel. 03-5239988.

**RENTALS**  
EXCLUSIVE, QUIET NORTH Tel Aviv! Penthouse under construction, 200 sq. m. single level, + 46 m. on roof + room for au pair + swimming pool, \$1,650,000. "KAV HAYAM" Tel. 03-5239988.

**RENTALS**  
EXCLUSIVE, QUIET NORTH Tel Aviv! Penthouse under construction, 200 sq. m. single level, + 46 m. on roof + room for au pair + swimming pool, \$1,650,000. "KAV HAYAM" Tel. 03-5239988.

**RENTALS**  
EXCLUSIVE, QUIET NORTH Tel Aviv! Penthouse under construction, 200 sq. m. single level, + 46 m. on roof + room for au pair + swimming pool, \$1,650,000. "KAV HAYAM" Tel. 03-5239988.

**SCOREBOARD**  
BASEBALL - Saturday's AL results: Boston 5, Toronto 7; Boston 5, Toronto 4; Texas 3, Detroit 1; Baltimore 10, Milwaukee 5; Chicago 11, New York 5; Oakland 5, Kansas City 2; California 5, Minnesota 2; Seattle 5, Cleveland 4.

**RENTALS**  
EXCLUSIVE, QUIET NORTH Tel Aviv! Penthouse under construction, 200 sq. m. single level, + 46 m. on roof + room for au pair + swimming pool, \$1,650,000. "KAV HAYAM" Tel. 03-5239988.

**RENTALS**  
EXCLUSIVE, QUIET NORTH Tel Aviv! Penthouse under construction, 200 sq. m. single level, + 46 m. on roof + room for au pair + swimming pool, \$1,650,000. "KAV HAYAM" Tel. 03-5239988.

**RENTALS**  
EXCLUSIVE, QUIET NORTH Tel Aviv! Penthouse under construction, 200 sq. m. single level, + 46 m. on roof + room for au pair + swimming pool, \$1,650,000. "KAV HAYAM" Tel. 03-5239988.

**RENTALS**  
EXCLUSIVE, QUIET NORTH Tel Aviv! Penthouse under construction, 200 sq. m. single level, + 46 m. on roof + room for au pair + swimming pool, \$1,650,000. "KAV HAYAM" Tel. 03-5239988.

**RENTALS**  
EXCLUSIVE, QUIET NORTH Tel Aviv! Penthouse under construction, 200 sq. m. single level, + 46 m. on roof + room for au pair + swimming pool, \$1,650,000. "KAV HAYAM" Tel. 03-5239988.

**SCOREBOARD**  
BASEBALL - Saturday's NL results: Boston 5, Toronto 7; Boston 5, Toronto 4; Texas 3, Detroit 1; Baltimore 10, Milwaukee 5; Chicago 11, New York 5; Oakland 5, Kansas City 2; California 5, Minnesota 2; Seattle 5, Cleveland 4.

Handwritten text in a box at the bottom right of the page.







# Prisoners to be allowed conjugal visits every two months

PRISONERS will now be allowed conjugal visits once every two months. Internal Security Minister Moshe Shahal announced at a Jerusalem press conference yesterday.

In addition, a special center will be built at Ayalon Prison with rooms for the husbands and wives to meet, "with private bathrooms and showers."

The moves are part of a new ministry policy formulated in response to several court cases. Until now, the Prisons Authority had not set policy on the matter.

"Our general view is that the conjugal visits are an important part of the rehabilitation of prisoner, not just in the sexual context, but because of the importance of returning the prisoner to normal family life," Shahal said.

The decision at present only applies to married inmates. Palestinians being held for security offenses are not included. Single prisoners with steady girl-

**BILL HUTMAN**

friends may later also be granted the right to conjugal visits.

The decision immediately effect some 700 prisoners who are not presently entitled to leaves, and have already served six months. Shahal also announced that lock-ups, where suspects are held before being charged, are no longer to be run by the police, but transferred to the Prisons Authority.

This was one of the recommendations of a six-month study aimed at finding ways to improve sub-standard conditions and prevent frequent break-outs at lock-ups.

"Our thinking is that Prisons Authority officials are the ones most qualified on the subject of holding not only prisoners, but also detainees," Shahal said.

He said the transfer will be an important step in improving the treatment of detainees. The law

allows the police to hold a suspect for 48 hours before he must be brought before a judge, when his detention can be extended.

The report also called for improvement in conditions in which detainees are held.

It called for the improvements to be made by January, "so the internal security minister can announce lock-ups meet the minimum standards defined in the law."

The conditions law under which detainees must be held are themselves sub-standard, and changes must be made in the law to improve the situation, the report said.

**Item adds:**

Shahal also said the security forces have reliable information that Hamas, Islamic Jihad, and Hizbullah are planning terror attacks to disrupt the elections. He specifically mentioned wanted terrorist Hassan Salameh, whom he called a "walking time bomb."

# Four teens sentenced for raping girl

THREE teenagers from a Lower Galilee settlement convicted of raping a 12-year-old girl over a one-year period were sentenced to prison by Nazareth District Court yesterday.

The three were among eight teenagers charged with raping the girl.

A fourth teenager, who was 13 at the time of the rape, was sentenced to 18 months in a closed youth institution. Sentencing for a fifth will take place at a later date.

while the trial of the last three, who have denied the charges, will continue.

According to the charges, the group began raping the girl at the beginning of the 1994 school year. Not all of the eight took part in every incident.

One of the boys befriended the girl, and when she refused to have sex with him at his house, he raped her.

He then demanded that she have sex with his friends.

According to the indictment, he threatened to beat her and tell her parents.

The judges sentenced one of the teenagers, who was 14 at the time, to one year in prison; a second, who was 15, got three years; and the third, who was 17, five years, but will not have to start serving until he finishes his matriculation exams.

All four sentenced yesterday were ordered to pay NIS 10,000 in compensation to the girl. (Itim)

# Meuhedet forces patients to hire its staff for extra care

**EVELYN GORDON**

RESIDENTS of Kupat Holim Meuhedet's nursing homes have been required to hire health fund staffers instead of private nurses, if they want extra care, at a cost of thousands of shekels a month, the Association for Civil Rights in Israel (ACRI) said yesterday.

The problem arises with respect to nursing home patients who do not meet the health fund's criteria for 24-hour-a-day nursing care, but whose families wish to provide them with such care anyway.

Formerly, ACRI said, these families were allowed to hire whatever private help they pleased, and to keep costs down, many chose to hire foreign workers.

About six months ago, however, Meuhedet announced that families who wanted extra care could hire only Meuhedet staff. Three families with members in one of the fund's Jerusalem nursing homes thereupon complained to ACRI, saying the fees charged by the Meuhedet workers were several times those of the foreign workers they had hired previously.

Attorney Anat Scolnicov of ACRI refused to provide exact figures, but said that in some

cases, the cost differential was as high as several thousand shekels a month.

ACRI also charges that this is a violation of the patients' rights. Since the nursing home is the patients' home, the organization said, the patients should have the right to order their lives as they please - which includes the right to hire whomever they wish to provide extra care.

Scolnicov said Meuhedet has since reached an agreement with these three families, but has not changed its stance in principle. As a result, she said, many other families are still being adversely affected.

**Judy Siegel adds:** Meuhedet spokesman Tal Rabina said that the rules barring outside nurses from Meuhedet old age homes protect residents from unsupervised helpers.

"If someone hires a foreign worker to stay with the resident, we do not know their qualifications, the condition of their physical or mental health, or whether they will start a fire. Our nurses' payment rates are set according to the Labor and Social Affairs Ministry schedule for non-profit providers."

# Lag Ba'omer 'wedding day' begins tonight

**JUDY SIEGEL and Itim**

HUNDREDS of couples will marry during the Lag Ba'omer celebration tonight and tomorrow. New immigrant couples will take part in a joint marriage ceremony in Tel Aviv.

Lag Ba'omer, the day the plague that afflicted Rabbi Akiva's disciples ceased, is the day between Pessah and Shavuot when couples traditionally get married. Barbers will also be busy.

Lag Ba'omer, as three-year-olds from observant families get their first haircut and adult men get shaves and haircuts.

Some 10,000 members of youth groups are to take part in a Histadrut-sponsored pro-peace torch-lighting on Lag Ba'omer

eve at Ein Gedi. At the same time, on the other side of the Dead Sea, Jordanian youth are to light torches for peace. Prime Minister Shimon Peres, Education Minister Amnon Rubinstein, and Histadrut Chairman Amir Peretz are to take part in the event.

The Nature Reserves Authority has warned the public to take care when lighting bonfires tonight, especially because of the hot, dry weather. Fires must be lit in empty, open areas with no brush. Fire-extinguishing materials must be brought to all bonfires. Lighting fires in nature reserves or national parks is prohibited.

Magen David Adom urges parents to supervise their children. Every year, hospital treat a number of patients injured during careless play at bonfires.

Celebrants should be especially careful to sit far enough from the fire and not in the direction of the wind to avoid flying sparks.

If a person's clothing catches fire, immediately roll him on the ground or extinguish the flame with a lot of water or a wet blanket. Make sure his head is not covered. Do not remove burnt clothing. Place sterile wet and cold compresses on the burns and call MDA (104) immediately.



A Jerusalem youth prepares for a Lag Ba'omer bonfire. (Itim)

**ISRAEL'S No. 1 ELDAN RENT-A-CAR**

FROM \$ PER DAY EXC. INS. & MILEAGE

CELLULAR PHONE AVAILABLE

<http://www.eldan.co.il/>

BEI GURION AIRPORT: 02-9720277  
TEL AVIV - 112 HAZARDON ST. 03-5271047  
TEL AVIV - 5 HANANIEV ST. 03-5399343  
JERUSALEM - 24 KING DAVID ST. 02-5353523  
NETZILIA: 04-5499622 / H. KATZELSON: 07-2272734  
HAIFA - CARMEL: 04-5375303 / CHECKPOST: 04-840970  
TEL AVIV - 07-34077 / BEER SHEVA: 07-430344  
ASHDOD: 08-534077 / NETANYAHU: 09-540982  
TIBERIAS: 06-722837 / Eilat: 06-6468279  
Ovda Airport: 07-340791

VALID 1/5/96 - 30/6/96

**WEATHER**

Forecast: Inland - hot and dry. Coast - humid.

Haifa	15-25
Tiberias	18-29
Afula	15-27
Somaria	18-28
Tel Aviv	17-28
Jerusalem	16-28
Beer Sheva	17-30
Dead Sea	20-36
Eilat	22-38

**AROUND THE WORLD**

Location	Low	High	Wind	Cloud
London	12	18	10	partly
Paris	13	19	12	partly
Rome	14	20	15	partly
Madrid	15	21	18	partly
Barcelona	16	22	20	partly
Amsterdam	11	17	10	partly
Brussels	12	18	12	partly
Frankfurt	13	19	15	partly
Berlin	14	20	18	partly
Munich	15	21	20	partly
Vienna	16	22	22	partly
Zurich	17	23	25	partly
Stockholm	18	24	28	partly
Copenhagen	19	25	30	partly
Helsinki	20	26	32	partly
Oslo	21	27	35	partly
Warsaw	22	28	38	partly
Budapest	23	29	40	partly
Prague	24	30	42	partly
Brno	25	31	45	partly
Vienna	26	32	48	partly
London	27	33	50	partly

**Winning cards**

IN yesterday's Mifal Hapayis Daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the eight of spades, ace of hearts, nine of diamonds, and eight of clubs.

# Aloni announces tender for Arabic cable TV

COMMUNICATIONS Minister Shulamit Aloni yesterday issued a tender for a consortium to supply Arabic-language cable TV broadcasts around the country.

The applicants must have at least \$2 million in capital and file an application by September 3.

Aloni said yesterday that after consulting with the Cable TV Council, she decided to issue the tender for a national Arabic-language cable TV channel.

The channel must broadcast at least six hours a day and provide entertainment and information for the whole family.

*Judy Siegel*

# Cabinet okays another 10,000 foreign workers

**BATSHEVA TSUR**

THERE are some 200,000 foreign workers here at present, half of them illegally, it was revealed at yesterday's cabinet meeting. This constitutes some 10 percent of the workforce.

The government nevertheless decided to allow the entry of another 10,000 construction workers, most of them from Romania.

The discussion revealed deep differences of opinion between the ministers. Prime Minister Shimon Peres, who had initially opposed bringing in additional workers, abstained in the vote.

Labor and Social Affairs Minister Ora Namir and Environment Minister Yossi Sarid opposed the idea on the grounds that it meant pushing out Palestinian laborers and could also lead to numerous social problems. Finance Minister Avraham Shohat, however, felt that the additional workers must be brought in, after Housing Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer said that housing projects are at a virtual standstill since the curfew imposed on the territories.

The ministers were also told of the difficulty in putting an end to the phenomenon of illegal workers, most of whom enter the country illegally, then "disappear."

# Husband being questioned on wife's murder

**DAVID RUDGE**

POLICE are investigating the death of a Haifa woman, apparently during a heated argument with her husband, at their home in the early hours of yesterday morning.

Galina Katzinelson, 49, was found dead at her home, after apparently having been beaten and stabbed in the course of a fight.

Her husband, Michael, 50, was arrested by police and claimed his

wife had fallen during the fight. The police were alerted by the couple's daughter, a 19-year-old soldier, as well as by the husband.

According to police inquiries based on reports from the daughter and neighbors, the couple tended to drink heavily and often had arguments which developed into fights. Galina Katzinelson's body was taken to the Abu Kabir forensic institute to establish the

cause of death.

In a separate incident, police have arrested a Haifa resident in connection with the murder of a Nazareth man, whose body was found in a deserted building in Haifa's downtown district last Thursday.

# Jamchee questioned again

**RAINE MARCUS**

DORON Jamchee, captain of Maccabi Tel Aviv and the national basketball team, was questioned for the second time yesterday by police and the tax authorities investigating illegal sports betting.

Jamchee was first questioned under caution on Thursday, after his name appeared on lists found by the law enforcement authorities in raids last week on alleged leaders of the betting operation which, according to police, netted millions of shekels monthly.

Sources said that Jamchee, the first basketball player to be questioned following the investigation of 11 soccer players last week, is suspected of betting on games. He was released on bail.

He refused to talk to reporters, but sources said that checks signed by him and family members are being examined to determine if they were written to cover gambling debts.

Eli Driks, captain of the Maccabi Tel Aviv soccer team, and Noam Shoham, a player on the team, were also questioned yesterday. They said they had not been asked if they were directly involved in betting, but that police were anxious to find out about others who had bet and whether they knew if any soccer matches had been fixed.

Of the betting organization's alleged leaders arrested last week, only one, Joe Suzin, is still in custody. Authorities allege that he was the organization's banker.

# Judges okay use of confession by suspected mafia murderer

TEL AVIV District Court yesterday rejected a request by accused murderer Oleg Ya'acovov to hold a separate hearing on the admissibility of evidence which he claims was extracted under pressure.

The judges ruled that he confessed to the police plant in his cell of his own free will, not under pressure.

Ya'acovov, 31, who plead innocent, is charged with stabbing and shooting his relatives, Sofia Moshayav, 65, and her grandson, Siblei, 21, last May 11 in their Ramat Aviv apartment, then beheading them. Their heads have never been found. The police and the District Attorney's Office believe Ya'acovov murdered them on orders of the mafia in Russia.

Defense lawyer Shmuel Fleishman told Judges

Raine Marcus

Dora Berliner, Zvi Garfunkle, and Sarah Gadot that shortly after his client's arrest last June, Siblei's father and uncle, self-confessed mafia leaders in Russia, arrived here and were allowed to meet with the accused in the police station.

According to Fleishman, they threatened Ya'acovov, saying they would kill his relatives in Russia if he did not disclose where he had put the heads.

After the meeting, Ya'acovov began to confess to the murder, and Fleishman said he did so only because he was afraid for his life.

The trial continues this morning, and Siblei's father Dimitri, who arrived from Russia last night, will testify for the prosecution.

*Raine Marcus*

# NEWS IN BRIEF

- Five injured in plane crash**  
Five people were lightly injured in a light plane crash in Herzliya last night. The Munis plane, owned by Neshet, which was carrying three people, landed on top of a building. A firefighter who went to rescue the passengers was among the injured, as was an 11-year-old boy. Authorities said pilot negligence had caused the accident, and are still investigating. *Raine Marcus*
- Japanese deputy defense minister here**  
Japan's deputy defense minister arrived here yesterday for a two-day visit which Israeli officials hope will lead to increased cooperation and perhaps military contacts with the Japanese. Yojiro Nakajima will also visit with a group of 45 Japanese Army observers in charge of logistics for the UN peacekeepers in the Golan. This is his first visit to Israel and he is being hosted by Israeli counterpart, Ori Orr. *Arieh O'Sullivan*
- Watch out for animals over the holiday**  
The Lev LeChai cat protection society is calling on the public to be particularly alert to cases of animal abuse over Lag Ba'omer. In the past few years, there have been several cases of kittens and puppies being thrown into Lag Ba'omer bonfires by children and youths. Last year, Lev LeChai volunteers prevented a kitten from being thrown into a fire in Haifa. In Ramat a car was torched at a bonfire at which a child was later pushed into the flames. Apart from appealing to parents and children to stop animal abuse, the group is also calling for volunteers to patrol sites where bonfires are being held. Details: (03) 605-5150. *Liat Collins*
- Two pirate radios closed down**  
Communications Ministry inspectors have - for the 11th time - closed down the hated pirate radio station Arutz 2000. The station has been broadcasting from south Tel Aviv on FM 102.6. The inspectors confiscated equipment when they located the illegal station on Thursday and transferred it to ministry storerooms because of lack of space in the Israeli Police facility. Another team shut down another pirate station, Star Radio, that has also been broadcasting from south Tel Aviv and been causing interference in Ben-Gurion Airport's communications with aircraft. *Judy Siegel*

**2 ONE-DAY TRIPS**

with Shorashim & The Jerusalem Post Travel Club

Spend a day away-from-it-all on one of Shorashim's entertaining and enlightening English speaking trips. You'll meet your sort of people, visit all the best-kept places and hear interesting and informative explanations from authoritative guides.

Space is limited so book early and avoid disappointment.

**Friday May 17**

**EIN KEREM**  
Led by renowned tour guide and Ein Kerem resident Walter Zanger. The tranquility and exciting peacefulness of the village remind many of old Provence. Ein Kerem, which is the birthplace of John the Baptist, has many churches. We will visit the famous Church of the Visitation, St. John's Church, and - the most peaceful place in Jerusalem - the Convent of the Sisters of Zion. The tour, which starts from the Spring of Miriam at 9:15 a.m., lasts until 1:00 p.m. NIS65.

**Sunday June 9**

**ANCIENT SYNAGOGUES OF GALILEE**  
After Jerusalem was destroyed in 70 CE, Jewish leaders fled to Eretz Yehuda and, after the Bar Kochba rebellion, to Galilee, where Jewish life began to flourish again. The tour leaves from Jerusalem, and picks up in Tel Aviv. Then we visit the A-bel, Tiberias, Kfar Nahum, and Peki'in. The tour guide is Yoni Shapir, and the cost, which includes entrance to all sites, a full lunch, and transportation in air-conditioned coaches, is NIS170.

Reservations and further information:  
SHORASHIM, POB 7588, 14 Rehov Abarbanel  
Rehavia, Jerusalem 91074  
Tel: 02-666231 (9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.)  
Ask for Romit, Tami or Varda

052-666231